

AD	

# MEMORANDUM REPORT ARBRL-MR-03164

EXPERIMENTAL VALIDATION FOR THE
UNIQUENESS OF THE DIFFERENTIAL PRESSUREMAXIMUM PRESSURE SENSITIVITY CURVE FOR
CHARGE SAFETY ASSESSMENT

Carl R. Ruth Albert W. Horst

**April 1982** 



10

රා

14

ADAI

US ARMY ARMAMENT RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT COMMAND
BALLISTIC RESEARCH LABORATORY
ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, MARYLAND

Approved for public release; distribution unlimited.

DTIC FILE COPY

CELECTE BERY 26 BERY 1

82 05 17 052

Destroy this report when it is no longer needed. Do not return it to the originator.

Secondary distribution of this report by originating or sponsoring activity is prohibited.

Additional copies of this report may be obtained from the National Technical Information Service, U.S. Department of Commerce, Springfield, Virginia 22161.

The findings in this report are not to be construed as an official Department of the Army position, unless so designated by other authorized documents.

The use of trade numes or manufacturers' names in this report does not constitute indorsement of any commercial product.

THE TOTAL WAR SERVICE AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR

REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE	READ INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE COMPLETING FORM
1. REPORT NUMBER 2. GOVT ACCESSION NO.	3. RECIPIENT'S CATALOG NUMBER
Memorandum Report ARBRL-MR-03164	$\overline{\mathcal{O}}$
4. TITLE (and Subtitle)	5. TYPE OF REPORT & PERIOD COVERED
Experimental Validation for the Uniqueness of the	Memorandum Report
Differential Pressure-Maximum Pressure Sensitivity	1 Oct 78 - 30 Sep 80
Curve for Charge Safety Assessment	6. PERFORMING ORG. REPORT NUMBER
7. AUTHOR(s)	8. CONTRACT OR GRANT NUMBER(s)
Carl R. Ruth and Albert W. Horst	
9. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME AND ADDRESS U.S. Army Ballistic Research Laboratory	10. PROGRAM ELEMENT, PROJECT, TASK AREA & WORK UNIT NUMBERS
ATTN: DRDAR-BLI	
Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21005	1L162618AH80
11. CONTROLLING OFFICE NAME AND ADDRESS	12. REPORT DATE
U.S. Army Armament Research & Development Command	April 1982
U.S. Army Ballistic Research Laboratory (DRDAR-BL)	13. NUMBER OF PAGES
Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21005	126
14. MIJNITORING AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS(If different from Controlling Office)	15. SECURITY CLASS, (of this report)
	Unclassified
	15a. CECLASSIFICATION/DOWNGRADING SCHEDULE
	SCHEDULE
16. DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT (of this Report)	
Approved for public release; distribution unlimited	
	1
	ĺ
17. DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT (of the abstract entered in Block 20, if different fro	an Report)
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
<u></u>	
18. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES	
	i
19. KEY WORDS (Continue on reverse side if necessary and identify by block number,	
Interior ballistics	P seek max
Pressure waves	
Guns	
Interior ballistics Pressure waves Guns 155-mm Howitzer	
20. ABSTRACT (Continue on reverse side if necessary and identity by block number)	jmk
One of the most used indicators of the level of	<i>)</i>
in the gun environment is $-\Delta V_1$ , the first negative	minimum of the pressure dif-
ference curve measured between the breech and forward	
current procedure for propelling charge safety asse	
the correlation between $-\Delta P_i$ and $P_{max}$ , the maximum	chamber pressure in order
to project the expected probability of exceeding a	given pressure limit. Major
concerns exist both in terms of how to generate a H	
_	··········

UNCLASSIFIED

postal and the second of the s

## SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF THIS PAGE(When Date Entered)

curve and whether the curve is unique for a given charge/weapon interface. This study addresses one aspect of the problem, that of uniqueness, and hence the applicability of a curve generated by means of intentionally faulted igniter systems with respect to the broader and more ill-defined class of failures experienced over many firings in the field. Within the limits of reasonable occasion-to-occasion differences and possible experimental errors, the existence of significantly different  $P_{\rm max}$  vs.  $-\Delta P_{\rm i}$  curves for a given charge/weapon combination was not demonstrated in this study. However, apparent differences were revealed in the ease with which one could generate substantial pressure waves in similar charge configurations using different propellant production lots. These results suggest that variations in propellant associated with different production lots may impact overall charge safety, and that current charge safety assessment procedures employing test results from a single lot of propelling charges (and hence a single propellant lot) may not be adequate for the prediction of failure rates.

UNCLASSIFIED

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

		Page
	LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS	5
	LIST OF TABLES	7
I.	INTRODUCTION	9
II.	TECHNICAL DISCUSSION	12
	A. Current Procedures	12
	B. Problem Areas	17
III.	155-mm HOWITZER FIRINGS	18
	A. Charge Design and Construction	18
	B. Test Procedure	20
	C. Firing Results	22
IV.	CONCLUSIONS	36
	REFEREN ES	42
	APPENDIX	43
	DISTRIBUTION LIST	123



Accession For	,
NTIS GRAST	_
DTIC TAB	
Unannounced	
Justification_	ı
	1
Ву	7
Distribution/	ł
Availability Codes	l
1 (AVN) 1	ĺ
Dist Special	
A POOTAL	
$\boldsymbol{\Delta}$	

## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Figur	e	Page
1.	Typical Centercore-Ignited Artillery Propelling Charge	10
2.	Pressure-Time and Pressure-Difference Profiles for a Properly-Ignited, High-Performance Charge	11
3.	Pressure-Time and Pressure-Difference Profiles, Localized Base Ignition	12
4.	Catastrophic Pressure-Wave Dynamic Behavior Observed in a 175-mm Gun Firing (APG FR P-82501)	13
5.	Pressure-Wave Sensitivity for the 175-mm, M107 Gun (M86A2 (Zone 3) Propelling Charge)	15
6.	Distribution of Pressure-Wave Amplitudes for the 175-mm, M107 Gun (M86A2 (Zone 3) Propelling Charge)	16
7.	Probability of high-Amplitude Pressure Waves for the 175-mm, M107 Gun (M86A2 (Zone 3) Propelling Charge)	16
8.	Standard M203 Propelling Charge (Zone 8)	19
9.	Locations of Pressure Taps in the Modified, M185 Cannon (Range 18)	20
10.	Velocity versus -ΔP <sub>i</sub> (Propellant Lot RAD-77H-069806)	27
11.	Breech Pressure versus -ΔP <sub>i</sub> (Propellant Lot RAD-77H-069806)	28
12.	Velocity versus Breech Pressure (Propellant Lot RAD-77H-069806)	29
13.	Velocity versus $-\Delta P_{\hat{i}}$ (Propellant Lot RAD-79E-069960)	32
14.	Breech Pressure versus -ΔP <sub>i</sub> (Propellant Lot RAD-79E-069960)	33
15.	Velocity versus Breech Pressure (Propellant Lot RAD-79E-069960)	34
16.	Velocity versus -ΔP <sub>i</sub> (Propellant Lot RAD-77G-069805)	37
17.	Breech Pressure versus - AP (Propellant Lot RAD-776-069805)	38

A STATE OF THE STATE OF

# LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS (Continued)

e	Page
Velocity versus Breech Pressure (Propellant Lot RAD-776-069805)	39
Breech Pressure versus -AP <sub>i</sub> for Each of the 19 Series. (Propellant Lot RAD-77H-069806, RAD-79E-069960, RAD-77G-069805)	40
	Velocity versus Breech Pressure (Propellant Lot RAD-776-069805)

# LIST OF TABLES

[abl	e	Page
1.	Charge Fabrication Parameters	. 21
2.	Summary of Firing Data for Standard-Diameter Charges, No Black Powder Snake in Nitrocellulose Centercore (Propellant Lot RAD-77H-069806)	. 23
3.	Summary of Firing Data for Standard-Diameter Charges, Halt Hlack Powder Snake in Nitrocellulose Centercore (Propellant Lot RAD-77H-069806)	. 23
4.	Summary of Firing Data for Standard-Diameter Charges, Black Powder in Nitrocellulose Centercore, No Snake (Propellant Lot RAD-77H-069806)	. 24
5.	Summary of Firing Data for Standard-Diameter Charges, Base-Ignited (Propellant Lot RAD-77H-069806)	. 25
6.	Summary of Firing Data for Full-Bore Charges, Base-Ignited (Propellant Lot RAD-77H-069806)	. 25
7.	Summary of Firing Data for Standard and Full-Bore Charges, Base-Ignited (Propellant Lot RAD-79E-069960)	. 30
3.	Summary of Firing Data for Full-Bore Charges, Base-Ignited (Propellant Lot RAD-77G-069805)	. 35

#### INTRODUCTION

Safety must always be one of the major concerns of the propelling charge designer. Any candidate charge design must ultimately be shown to be safe to produce, handle, ship, store, load, fire, and eventually demilitarized. In this study, we confine our interest to safety during the firing operation and, in particular, to problems resulting from overpressures, which may be related to pressure waves in the gun chamber. As pointed out by Budka and Knapton1, "researchers have revealed one common characteristic associated with the occurrence of unexpected high pressure excursions -- namely, the existence of strong pressure waves in the gun system." Yet many weapons with excellent safety records exhibit pressure waves, some at substantial amplitudes. Techniques for distinguishing between acceptable and unacceptable amplitudes of pressure waves are based on philosophies that range all the way from "she ain't blown yet, so why worry now?" to "all pressure waves are unacceptable!" While both views may be considered impractical, the more conservative approach finds its origin in the costly experiences of numerous catastrophic gun malfunctions<sup>2-7</sup>, where large pressure waves served as precursors to the overpressure or premature functioning of the payload. Further motivation arises from our lack of understanding of the detailed phenomenology of such failures, as articulated nearly three

是一个时间,我们就是一个时间,我们就是一个时间,我们就是一个时间,我们就是一个时间,我们就是一个时间,我们就是一个时间,我们就是一个时间,我们就是一个时间,我们 第一个时间,我们就是一个时间,我们就是一个时间,我们就是一个时间,我们就是一个时间,我们就是一个时间,我们就是一个时间,我们就是一个时间,我们就是一个时间,我们

A. J. Budka and J.D. Knapton, "Pressure Wave Generation in Gun Systems: A Survey," Ballistic Research Laboratory, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD, Memorandum Report 2567, December 1975. (AD #B008893L)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>D. W. Culbertson, M. C. Shamblen, and J. S. O'Brasky, "Investigation of 5"/38 Gun In-Bore Ammunition Malfunctions," Naval Weapons Laboratory, Dahlgren, VA, TR-2624, December 1971.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>M. C. Shamblen and J. S. O'Brasky, "Investigation of 8"/55 Close Aboard Malfunctions," Naval Weapons Laboratory, Dahlgren, VA, TR-2753, April 1973.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>P. J. Olenick, "Investigation of the 76-mm/62 Caliber Mark 75 Gun Mount Malfunctions," Naval Surface Weapons Center, Dahlgren, VA, TR-3411, October 1975.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>E. V. Clarke, Jr. and I. W. May, "Subtle Effects of Low-Amplitude Pressure Wave Dynamics on the Ballistics Performance of Guns," 11th JANNAF Combustion Meeting, CPIA Publication 261, Vol. 1, pp. 141–156, December 1974.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>A. W. Horst, I. W. May, and E. V. Clarke, Jr., "The Missing Link Between Pressure Waves and Breechblows," USA ARRADCOM, Ballistic Research Laboratory, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD, Memorandum Report 02849, July 1978. (A058354)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>K. H. Russel and H. M. Goldstein, "Investigation and Screening of M17 Propellant Production for Lots Subject to Poor Low Temperature Performance, Picatinny Arsenal, Dover, NJ, DB-TR-7-61, June 1961.

decades ago by the British interior ballistician Lockett<sup>8</sup>, "It might be pertinent to point out...that there is always some uncertainty in the interpretation of what might be dismissed as minor irregularities in the pressure-time curve. We have by bitter experience learned to regard such irregularities with a degree of suspicion...because of the apparent ease with which such minor flaws can turn over to major irregularities by some mechanism not yet understood."

The problem of breechblows is of most concern to the U.S. Army with respect to the design of high performance artillery bag charges. A typical layout for such a charge is presented schematically in Figure 1. Principal

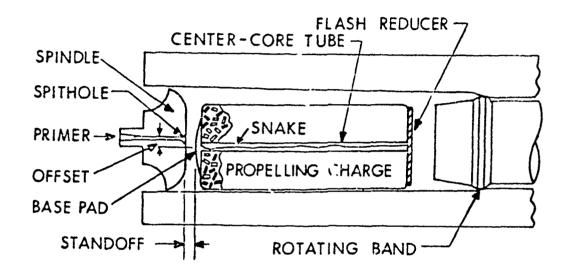


Figure 1. Typical Centercore-Ignited Artillery Propelling Charge

components of the charge include a basepad igniter (usually containing black powder or CBI\*), a centercore igniter tube (containing additional igniter material), and a main charge (typically multi-perforated, triple-base, granular propellant). A cloth bag is employed to contain the charge, and other components such as a flash inhibitor or wear-reducing additive may be present. We postulate functioning of the charge to be described by the following sequence of events. The basepad igniter is initiated by the impingement of hot combustion products from a percussion primer. The basepad then ignites the centercore charge, and together they ignite nearby propellant grains. Combined igniter and propellant gases penetrate the propellant bed, convectively heating the grains and resulting in flamespread. During this process, the pressure gradient and interphase drag forces tend to accelerate the propellant grains, largely in the forward direction,

<sup>8</sup>N. Lockett, "British Work on Solid Propellant Ignition," <u>Bulletin of the First Symposium on Solid Propellant Ignition</u>, Solid Propellant Information Agency, Silver Spring, MD, September 1953.

<sup>&#</sup>x27;"Clean Burning Igniter," a nitrocellulose-based ignition material.

thrusting them and any intervening elements against the projectile base. Upon stagnation, a reflected compression wave in the gas phase may be formed, its magnitude being subject to the combined effects of reduction in free volume (due to bed compaction) and combustion in this low-porosity region.

If the charge functions as intended, smooth pressure-time curves as shown in Figure 2 are obtained. A pressure-difference history, formed by subtracting the pressure measured by a gage in the chamber wall near the initial position of the projectile base (hereafter identified as the chamber mouth) from the breech pressure as a function of time, reveals only the normal forward-facing gradient associated with motion of the projectile down the tube. On occasion, however, pressure-time histories as shown in Figure 3 are obtained. High-amplitude, longitudinal pressure waves are clearly

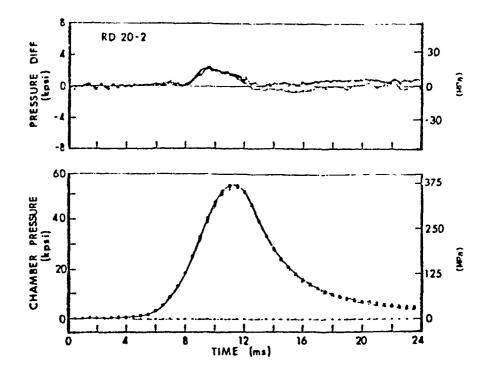


Figure 2. Pressure-Time and Pressure-Difference Profiles for a Properly-Ignited, High-Performance Charge

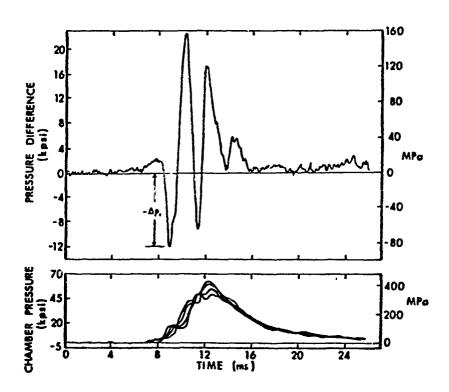


Figure 3. Pressure-Time and Pressure-Difference Profiles,
Localized Base Ignition

manifested in the pressure-difference plot. Such phenomena have been traditionally associated with localized ignition of the propellant bed and thus may imply non-functioning or at least late functioning of the centercore charge. Whether this wave dissipates or grows is dependent on a complex interplay of events including gas production rates, ullage, bed permeability and projectile motion. Thus, other factors in addition to proper functioning of the ignition train may be of importance. Finally, increases in maximum chamber pressure may or may not accompany such increases in pressure-wave dynamics. The extreme cases which generate large pressure waves may result in breechblows (see Figure 4).

In this study, we address the validity of a fundamental assumption on which is based the procedure currently used by the U.S. Army to evaluate the influence of pressure waves on those aspects of system safety related to maximum chamber pressure.

#### TECHNICAL DISCUSSION

### A. Current Procedure

THE PARTY OF THE P

As one facet of the overall safety assessment procedure for new propelling charges for artillery, the Ballistic Research Laboratory (BRL)

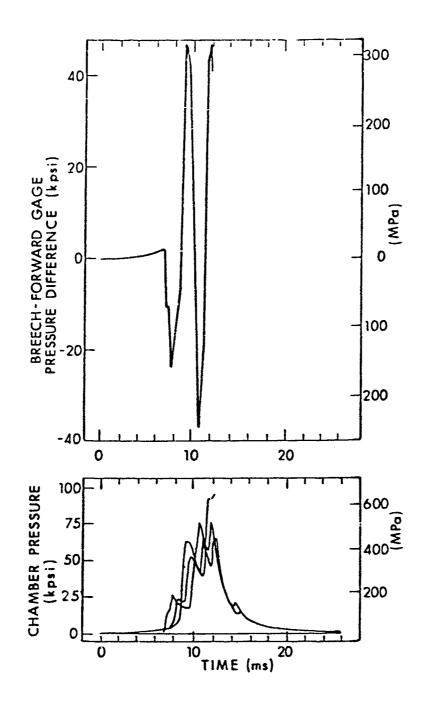


Figure 4. Catastrophic Pressure-Wave Dynamic Behavior Observed in a 175-mm Gun Firing (APG FR P-82501)

is often asked to comment on safety of the charge, particularly with respect to any deleterious effects of pressure waves. While problems arising from transient loads on the projectile base (both gas and solid phase) associated with the presence of pressure waves will not be addressed in this report, the influence of pressure waves on maximum chamber pressure can be assessed in the following manner:

- (1) Charge design sensitivity firings are conducted to determine the relationship between  $-\Delta P_i$  and maximum chamber pressure for the charge/ weapon combination. Intentionally-altered centercore or base-ignited charges may be included to assure that data from a localized ignition will result in a large  $-\Delta P_i$  for a reasonable number of tests. More recent assessments of base-ignited charges have included sensitivity testing with special charges ir which faster-burning igniter materials have been substituted for the standard material.
- (2) A failure criterion is identified, usually in terms of some maximum chamber pressure, dictated most often by breech or payload failure levels.
- (3) This failure level is reinterpreted in terms of a  $-\Delta P_i$  level, determined from the sensitivity curve developed in Step (1).
- (4) A sample population of firing data is then obtained which is believed to be representative of "real-world" propelling charges, typical of those to be fielded for use. One or more statistical distributions are fit to these data.
- (5) The probability of failure (as defined in Step (3)) can then be statistically determined with respect to the distribution of  $-\Delta P$ , values from Step (4).

An alternate form of this procedure is possible if the sample population of firing data described in step (4) is available prior to sensitivity testing. Based on this population, the  $-\Delta P_i$  value to be associated with the highest, acceptable probability for failure can be statistically projected, and sensitivity testing to determine the corresponding chamber pressure need not be continued beyond that point. In this fashion, while we do not necessarily determine the  $-\Delta P_i$  value corresponding to the maximum pressure failure criterion, we do ensure that this pressure limit is not exceeded at that  $-\Delta P_i$  level projected to occur at a frequency equal to the highest allowable probability for failure. This alternate plan, in some cases, may significantly reduce the risk of catastrophic overpressure during sensitivity testing.

Application of the basic procedure can be demonstrated with respect to a data base available for the 175-mm, M107 gun. The relationship between  $-\Delta P_i$ 

and maximum chamber pressure for M86A2, Zone 3 charges fired in the M107 gun, based on charge design sensitivity firings, is presented in Figure 5. A  $-\Delta P_1$  failure criterion can also be identified on this curve, corresponding to a known breech failure pressure level. Figure 6 then presents the cumulative distribution of  $-\Delta P_1$  levels for a data base considered to represent a typical population of "real-world" M86A2, Zone 3 charges. The probability of achieving the  $-\Delta P_1$  failure level, as determined using Kolmogorov-Smirnov statistics and two different population distribution functions, is presented in Figure 7. The prediction of one failure in about half a million firings compares quite favorably with historical data of half a dozen breechblows in some two and one-half million firings to date. This agreement, although satisfying, must be considered somewhat fortuitous.

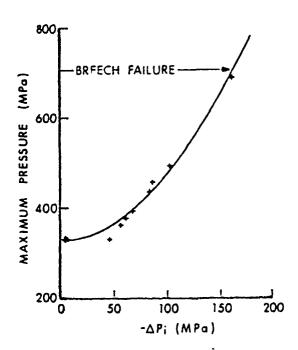


Figure 5. Pressure-Wave Sensitivity for a 175-mm,
M107 Gun (M86A2 (Zone 3) Propelling Charge)

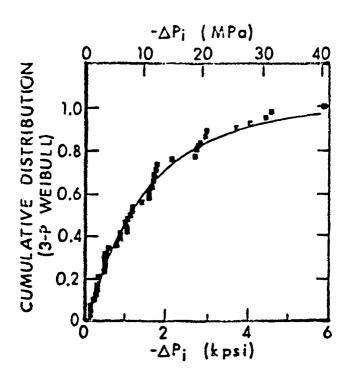


Figure 6. Distribution of Pressure-Wave Amplitudes for the 175-mm, M107 Gun (M86A2 (Zone 3) Propelling Charge)

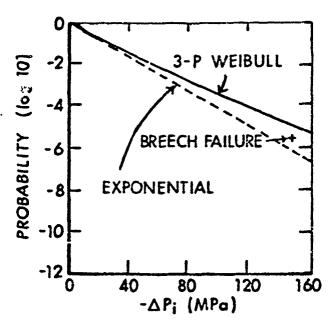


Figure 7. Probability of High-Amplitude Pressure Waves for the 175-mm, M107 Gun (M86A2 (Zone 3) Propelling Charge)

### B. Problem Areas.

There exists, unfortunately, a number of areas of concern associated both with the physical foundation for and application of the assessment procedures just described. Treating the latter first, many times it is impossible to achieve good fits of statistical distribution functions to the experimentally obtained populations of  $-\Delta P_i$  data. This may be, in part, a consequence of the fact that  $-\Delta P_i$  is not the most physically well-motivated parameter of interest; this possibility is under separate investigation. In addition, use of the Kolmogorov-Smirnov statistic to provide an extrapolation to failure levels well outside the range of experimental data leads to extremely broad confidence bands associated with the prediction.

The current study, however, was not motivated by these or any related concerns. Rather, i\* deals with the major physical assumption on which the assessment procedure is based, that being the existence of a unique relationship between  $-\Delta P_{\mathbf{i}}$  and  $P_{\text{max}}$  for a given propelling charge/weapon combination. The uniqueness of this relationship is essential first to allow generation of the sensitivity curve via intentionally-altered ignition systems and second to assume applicability of a curve so generated to the much broader class of failures that occur over many years of fielded uses of production charges.

Having said this, we immediately weaken the requirement to "nearly unique." It is clear that a detailed analysis of the chemically reacting, two-phase flow processes leading to pressure waves in guns and linking their presence to increases in peak pressure will lead us to the conclusion that in the limit this relationship cannot be unique. Moreover, if these processes include such mechanisms as mechanical failure of propellant grains, one should expect some variation in performance even for virtually identical firing conditions. The key question then becomes whether or not the  $P_{\text{max}}$  vs  $-\Delta P_{\text{i}}$  relationship is near enough to being unique to be useful.

Since the early systematic studies of May and Clarke  $^5$ , much has been learned about the nature of this relationship. One major factor influencing the sensitivity curve is the initial temperature of the propelling charge. If one ascribes pressure increases accompanying high levels of pressure waves to grain fracture, as suggested by Horst et al.  $^6$ , the increasing sensitivity of peak pressure to pressure waves for cold-conditioned charges is not surprising, as an increased brit leness of propellant grains at cold temperatures has been demonstrated experimentally  $^7$ . This complicating feature of the  $P_{\text{max}}$  vs  $-\Delta P_{\hat{1}}$  relationship merely requires performing the described safety assessment procedures at both hot and cold temperature extremes.

As the failure pressure for the system may also be temperature-dependent, the role of initial temperature will have to be considered throughout the analysis. Similar though smaller corrections may be, at least conceptually, applied for any influence on  $P_{\mbox{\scriptsize max}}$  vs  $-\Delta P_{\mbox{\scriptsize i}}$  sensitivity imparted by projectile type, wear state of the gun, recoil system, etc..

In the area of ignition system modifications, however, no such correction is possible and hence the requirement for approximate uniqueness is absolute. Since modifications to the ignition system are intentionally introduced to assure the generation of large-amplitude pressure waves with reasonably few firings, we assume that the curve so generated would not have been different had we selected another set of igniter modifications for testing. While different faults may or may not lead to different pressure-wave levels, a single sensitivity curve must be defined by all such  $-\Delta P_{\rm i}$ ,  $P_{\rm max}$  data pairs. It is with this fundamental assumption that the following study deals.

#### III. 155-mm HOWITZER FIRINGS

Since major concerns exist both in terms of how to generate a  $P_{\text{max}}$  vs  $-\Delta P_{i}$  sensitivity curve and whether such a curve, once generated, is unique and universally applicable to a given charge/weapon interface, an experimental investigation was undertaken to quantify the effects of deliberately induced high-amplitude pressure waves on the peak chamber pressure exhibited by a high-performance artillery charge. The parameters varied to induce the waves were charge diameter, charge standoff, and ignition train characteristics (configuration, interfaces, basepad composition, etc.).

#### A. Charge Design and Construction

Standard 155-mm, M203 Propelling Charges, Lots IND-78H-069806, IND-78F-069805, and IND-79K-069960 were obtained for testing from Project Manager, Cannon Artillery Weapons System. The M203 Charge is the top zone (8S) for the U.S. Army 155-mm, M198 Towed Howitzer. Depicted in Figure 8, this charge employs M30Al triple-base propellant, ignited by a basepad and centercore ignition system employing Class 1, Black Powder. The test charges were fabricated by unloading the standard M203 charges, making the desired changes to the igniter tube, snake, basepad, etc., and then reloading the standard 7-perforation propellant. Since the possibility of catastrophic failure of the gun or breech exists with tests of this nature, the charge weight for all tests was reduced from the standard 11.80 kg to 10.89 kg. Fabrication of the full-bore charges was accomplished by modifying the bag by inserting a tapered wedge of cloth to form a sleeve wherein the spindle end was larger in diameter than the forward chamber end. The standard 7-perforation propellant was then 'eloaded into the full-bore bags. The excess material caused by the down oading of the charges was removed and the front end-cover was sewn back on. The reassembled charges were then each secured in a lacing jacket to give the charge rigidity and maintain component integrity. All charge modifications (loading, bag sewing, basepad

# CHARGE, PROPELLING, 155MM, M203 (RED BAG, ZONE 8S)

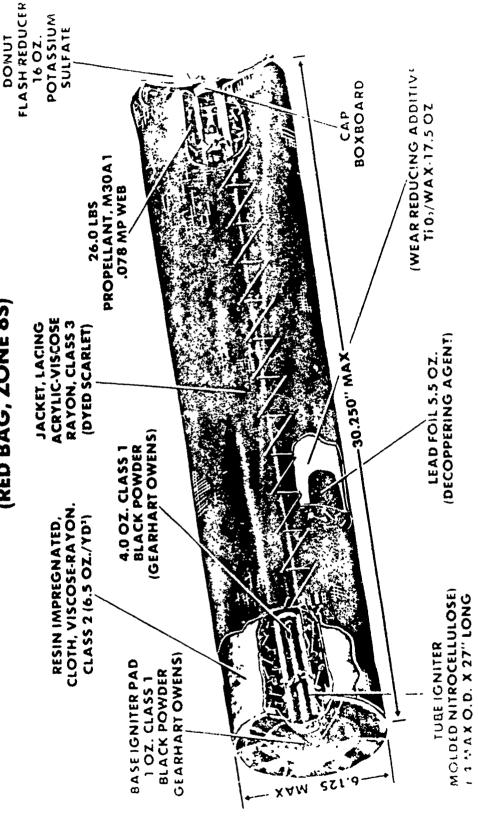


Figure 8. Standard M203 Propelling Charge (Zone 8).

and centercore revamping, etc.) were done either at the BRL or the Material Testing Directorate (MTD). Table 1 provides a general outline of the charge types tested in this study. All charges were conditioned at a temperature of 295-300 K for at least 24 hours prior to firing. The charges were loaded into the cannon chamber at varying stand-offs (distance from spindle face to base of propellant basepad) depending on the requirements of the test. Standard M101, inert-loaded projectiles, Lot E-SXH-2-6-57, available at the BRL, were used for all firings. The weight of the projectiles  $(43.63 \pm .04 \text{ kg})$  was accurately monitored by using on-post MTD loading facilities.

### B. Test Procedure

A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR

All firings were conducted at the BRL Sandy Point Firing Facility (R-18) in an M185 Cannon, modified to provide a chamber configuration similar to that of the M199 Cannon (see Figure 9). Multiple station pressure-time data, differential pressures, and projectile velocities were recorded by the Ballistic Data Acquisition System (BALDAS), under the control of a PDP11/45 minicomputer. Pressures were measured using Kistler 607C3 piezoelectric transducers, and projectile velocity was measured by solenoid coils approximately 20 and 35 meters from the muzzle. Ignition delays were recorded by measuring the interval between the time the firing pulse was sent to the gun to the time a pressure of 10 MPa was first detected on the spindle gage. A backup analog magnetic tape system also recorded all data.

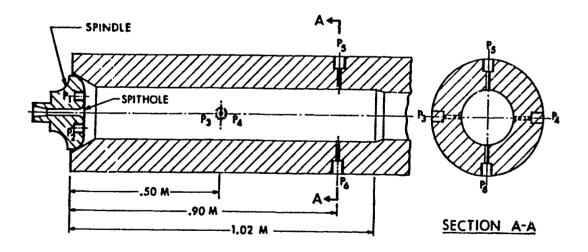


Figure 9. Locations of Pressure Taps in the Modified, M185 Cannon (Range 18)

TABLE 1. CHARGE FABRICATION PARAMETERS\*

Propellant Lot	Series	Charge Ulameter	Basepad	Nitrocellulose Centercore	Black Powder Snake	Comments
RAD-7711-069806**	1	Std	Std	. Std	Std	Series 1 is the "standard" for comparison in these tests.
	2-3-4	=	=	=	None	Black powder (BP) snake removed from nitrocellulose (NC) centercore
	7.8	=	=	=	Modified	<pre>1/2 BP snake removed. Remainder (56 g) at front end of NC tube.</pre>
	11-12	=	=	=	t	BF removed from snake and placed at front of NC tube (112 g). Wad of cottonwaste held BP inplace in NC tube.
	9-10		=	None	None	Base-ignited
	5-6	Full-Bore	=	=	=	Base-Ignited
RAfi-79E (169960	13	=	Modifled	=	u	Two Part:*** 28 g BP, Class 5 Basepad, 56 g CBI
	14		=	=	:	Basepad: 84 g BP, Class 1
	15	Std	=	=	a	Basepad: 84 g BP, Class 3
RAD -77G-069805	16	Full-Bore	=	*	· .	Two Part:*** 28 g BP, Class 5 Basepad 56 g CBI
	17	τ	=	ŧ	=	Two Part:*** 28 g BP, Class 5 Basepad 56 g CBI Propellant: 80*:011/3 stacked
	18	11	=	Ξ	1	basepad: 84 g CBI
	19	i.		2	***	Basepad: 84 g BP, Class 5

\* All charpes weighed 10.89 kg. Seriés 1 is the "standard" series. Reduced charge weight shortened length of charge and NC tube.

\*\* Bustind for Test Series 1-12 was 28 g BP, Class 1.

\*\*\* Bysepad divided into two concentric circles. The center circle contained BP; the remaining area contained CBI.

## C. Firing Results

Nineteen series of test firings, encompassing many experimental parameters, were fired over a two-year period. Results will be discussed, not in chronological order of firing, but according to the three propellant lots into which all the \_\_ries fall. Table 1 nomenclature will be employed throughout the discussion. Averaged firing data for each series are tabulated in tables throughout the report with computer-generated plots of selected data channels (spindle and forward pressure vs. time, pressure-difference vs. time) included as the Appendix.

# 1. Propellant Lot RAD-77H-069806.

- a. Standard-Diameter Charge, Standard Centercore; Series 1. Centercore-ignited, standard-diameter charges, with no changes to the ignition system and downloaded to 10.89 kg of propellant, were tested at zero stand-off from the spindle face. Past data suggested that no standoff between the spindle face and propelling charge promoted the formation of pressure waves. Baseline firing data for this loading condition were required to ensure that pressures and pressure waves with this charge weight would be at safe levels. A four-round series yielded average values for  $P_{\text{max}}$  and  $-\Delta P_{\hat{1}}$  of 262 MPa and 13 MPa respectively, with a maximum individual  $-\Delta P_{\hat{1}}$  of 26 MPa. Average values for projectile velocity and ignition delay were 758 m/s and 44 ms, respectively. Since these data were considered at a safe level, all subsequent series discussed will be at this charge weight.
- b. Standard Diameter Charge, No Black Powder Snake in Nitrocellulosc Centercore; Series 2-3-4. Centercore-ignited, standard-diameter charges with the black powder snake removed from the nitrocellulose (NC) centercore tube were tested at zero, 2.5-cm and maximum standoff (24.0 cm). Table 2 summarizes the firing results for these three series. As expected, the removal of the black powder snake caused local base ignition of the charges as indicated by the large  $-\Delta P_{\hat{1}}$ . The ignition delay increased as the charge standoff increased. Although  $P_{\text{max}}$  and  $-\Delta P_{\hat{1}}$  were essentially the same for the three series, the standard deviation at maximum standoff for  $-\Delta P_{\hat{1}}$  was considerably higher than at zero or 2.5-cm standoff.

TABLE 2. SUMMARY OF FIRING DATA\* FOR STANDARD-DIAMETER CHARGES, NO BLACK POWDER SNAKE IN NITROCELLULOSE CENTERCORE (PROPELLANT LOT RAD-77H-069806).

Series	Charge Standoff (cm)	Projectile Velocity (m/s)	Pmax (MPa)	-ΔP <sub>i</sub> (MPa)	Ignition Delay (ms)
2	0	759.	280.	54.	66.
	(0.0)	(1.2)	(2.7)	(2.2)	(4.6)
4	2.5	762.	278.	50.	132.
	(0.0)	(3.6)	(10.4)	(3.6)	(121.5)
3	24.0	764.	280.	57.	348.
	(0.8)	(7.1)	(11.2)	(11.8)	(107.4)

<sup>\*</sup> Values shown are averages for 4 firings; sample standard deviations are shown in parentheses.

c. Standard-Diameter Charge, Half Black Powder Snake in Nitrocellulose Centercore; Series 7-8. Centercore-ignited, standard-diameter charges with modified black powder snakes were tested at 2.5-cm and maximum standoff. The black powder snake was modified by reducing its length by half and repositioning the reduced snake at the front of the NC centercore. This left a gap of about 30 cm between the black powder basepad and the snake. Firing results are summarized in Table 3. Pressure and velocity were similar to Series 1, the "standard" wherein no changes were made to the ignition system. The substantial reductions in  $-\Delta P_{\bf i}$  and ignition delay for both charge standoffs from those noted in Series 2-3-4 were attributed to the additional 56 g of black powder (half-length black powder snake) which partly served to function as a normal, full-length snake.

TABLE 3. SUMMARY OF FIRING DATA\* FOR STANDARD-DIAMETER CHARGES, HALF BLACK POWDER SNAKE IN NITROCELLULOSE CENTERCORE (PROPELLANT LOT RAD-77H-069806)

Series	Charge Standoff (cm)	Projectile Velocity (m/s)	P <sub>max</sub> (MPa)	-ΔP <sub>i</sub> (MPa)	Ignition Delay (ms)
7	2.5 (0.0)	759. (1.9)	25 <b>9.</b> (4.2)	2.5 (1.7)	93. (9.4)
8	20.9 (0.4)	762. (3.6)	262. (6.5)	3.5*	156. (123.9)

<sup>\*</sup> Values shown are averages for 4 firings (Series 8,  $-\Delta P_i$ , is for 2 rounds); sample standard deviations are shown in parentheses.

d. Standard-Diameter Charge, Black Powder in Nitrocellulose Centercore, No Snake; Series 11-12. Centercore-ignited, standard-diameter charges were modified by removing the black powder from the cloth snake and reloading the 112 g of black powder directly into the forward section of the nitrocellulose tube. The powder was prevented from falling back on the basepad by inserting a 3-cm thick wad of cotton waste forward into the centercore until it contacted the black powder. This left a large gap between the basepad and the wad of cotton waste and significally reduced the porosity of the black powder. Firing results are summarized in Table 4.

TABLE 4. SUMMARY OF FIRING DATA\* FOR STANDARD-DIAMETER CHARGES, BLACK POWDER IN NITROCELLULOSE CENTERCORE, NO SNAKE (PROPELLANT LOT RAD-77H-069806)

Series	Charge Standoff (cm)	Projectile Velocity (m/s)	P <sub>max</sub> (MPa)	-ΔP <sub>i</sub> (MPa)	Ignition Delay (ms)
11	2.5	765.	267.*	34.*	803*
	(0.0)	(4.7)	(10.6)	(23.9)	(636)
12	26.2	762.	252.	6.	68.
	(0.2)	(2.3)	(11.8)	(1.7)	(6.1)

<sup>\*</sup> Values shown are averages for 4 firings (Series 11,  $P_{max}$ ,  $-\Delta P_i$ , and ignition delay are for three rounds); sample standard deviations are shown in parentheses.

THE PARTY OF THE P

Results for these two series were inconsistent from previous firings. Pressure for both series and ignition delay for Series 12 were similar to Series 1 which had a standard black powder snake in the NC centercore. The  $-\Delta P_i$ 's for Series 11 and 12, although greatly different from each other, were smaller than those noted for Series 2-3-4 which had no black powder in the NC centercore. The individual ignition delays for Series 11 which were extremely large and variable (1078, 1255, and 76 ms) as well as the large standard deviation in  $-\Delta P_i$  suggest that ignition for the 2.5-cm standoff may have depended on whether the ignition products from the 28 g of black powder basepad penetrated the wad of cotton waste in the NC tube and ignited the 112 g of black powder (short delay, low  $-\Delta P_i$ ) or simply spot-ignited the NC tube (long delay, high  $-\Delta P_i$ ). The short and consistent ignition delays for Series 12 as well as the character of the -APi traces (Appendix) strongly suggest ignition for this series occurred at the front of the charge where the black powder in the NC centercore was concentrated. Apparently, for Series 12, the effects of charge standoff, location of black powder and parasitic obstruction in the NC tube combined to produce stable burning and small pressure waves.

e. Standard-Diameter Charge, Base-Ignited; Series 9-10. Base-ignited, standard-diameter charges were fabricated from standard charges

by removing the black powder snake and NC centercore and fired at two charge standoffs. Table 5 summarizes the firing results.

TABLE 5. SUMMARY OF FIRING DATA\* FOR STANDARD-DIAMETER CHARGES, BASE-IGNITED (PROPELLANT LOT RAD-77H-069806)

Series	Charge Standoff (cm)	Projectile Velocity (m/s)	P <sub>max</sub> (MPa)	-ΔPi (MPa)	Ignition Delay (ms)
9	2.5	755.	252.	46.	1270.
	(0.0)	(3.7)	(3.9)	(3.7)	(7 <b>9</b> 8.7)
10	27.4	758.	257.	42.	1322.
	(0.2)	(1.8)	(3.8)	(4.5)	(973.7)

<sup>\*</sup> Values shown are averages for 4 firings; sample standard deviations are shown in parentheses.

The decrease in macroscopic propellant bed porosity by elimination of the centercore contributed greatly to the nonsimultaneous ignition of the propellant grains as indicated by the large  $-\Delta P_{\rm i}$  and the very large ignition delays for both standcff conditions. The range of the delay for Series 9 from 382 to 1987 ms and Series 10 from 382 to 2258 ms indicate serious problems in ignition and flamespreading. Apparently, the 28 g of Class 1, Black Powder in the basepad was barely sufficient in conjunction with the large annular and axial ullage to ignite the charge.

THE PARTY OF THE P

f. Full-Bore Charge. Ease-Ignited; Series 5-6. Base-ignited, full-bore charges were fabricated and fired at two charge standoffs. This configuration was considered the most severe for inducing pressure waves since all annular ullage was eliminated between the charge and the chamber wall. Firing results are shown in Table 6.

TABLE 6. SUMMARY OF FIRING DATA\* FOR FULL-BORE CHARGES, BASE-IGNITED (PROPELLANT LOT RAD-77H-069806)

Series	Charge Standoff (cm)	Projectile Velocity (m/s)	P <sub>max</sub> (MPa)	-ΔP <sub>i</sub> (MPa)	Ignition Delay (ms)
5	2.5	772.	270.	54.	162.
	(0.0)	(8.1)	(13.8)	(10.7)	(47.4)
6	27.9	771.	262.*	46.*	12 <b>9.</b>
	(0.0)	(5.2)	(-)	(-)	(22.1)

<sup>\*</sup> Values shown are averages for 4 firings (Series 6,  $P_{max}$  and  $-\Delta P_i$  are for 2 firings; Series 6, ignition delay is for 3 firings); sample standard deviations are shown in parentheses.

As expected, this series did produce large- $\Delta P_i$ 's, but not larger than experienced with some of the other series. The substantial reduction in ignition delay over the standard-diameter, base-ignited charges (Series 9-10) is attributed to the elimination of annular ullage. Hot ignition gases, constrained from expanding into this ullage and thus forced to penetrate the propellant bed, quickly ignited the charge. The large  $-\Delta P_i$ 's attest to the nonsimultaneity of the ignition process.

- Summary of Firings with. Propellant Lot RAD-77H-069806. The experimental firings, which were divided into six groups based on charge configuration and further divided into 4-round series based on charge standoff, were devised to promote nonuniform ignition leading to pressurewave formation. Within each group the effect of charge standoff on each measured parameter (pressure,  $-\Delta P_i$ , velocity, etc.) has been discussed. The averaged data for all 12 series are plotted on Figures 10, 11, and 12. Dotted lines connect each series within a group. The effect of standoff within or across a group has essentially no effect on projectile velocity, which averaged 762 m/s (Figure 10), even though standoff for Series 11 and 12 and charge configuration, ir general, produced significant changes in  $-\Delta P_i$  level.  $P_{max}$  was inconsistently affected by charge standoff: namely, independent for Series 2-3-4, 7-8, and 9-10 and decreasing for Series 11-12 and 5-6 with increasing standoff (Figure 11). In general, as  $-\Delta P_1$ increased,  $P_{max}$  remained around 260 MPa until - $\Delta P_i$  reached 50 MPa; as - $\Delta P_i$  increased above 50 MPa, the  $P_{max}$  showed an increase (Series 2-3-4). Velocity did not increase with increasing  $P_{\text{max}}$  (Figure 12), even though P<sub>max</sub> varied from 252 to 280 MPa.
- 2. Propellant Lot RAD-79E-069960. Three base-ignited, 5-round series, one of standard diameter and two of full-bore configuration, were tested with this lot of propellant. Basepad composition was the primary mechanism for inducing large  $-\Delta P_1$ 's, with charge diameter and standoff providing tradeoff parameters to ensure against excessive waves that might damage the tube. Data for the three series, as chronologically fired, are shown in Table 7. When the experimental condition (basepad composition, charge standoff) consisted of three or more rounds, the data are shown as an average; otherwise, the individual firings are presented.

All the rounds for Series 13 were fired at zero standoff in order to induce large  $-\Delta P_i$ 's with the relatively slow burning CBI/black powder basepad. As the basepad composition became more energetic, (Series 15 faster than 14 which was faster than 13), the charge standoff was changed from the "worst" no standoff condition to standoffs less likely to cause catastrophic pressure waves. The Class 3, Black Powder used in Series 15 was considered too fast to use in full-bore charges; therefore, standard-diameter, baseignited charges were used for this series.

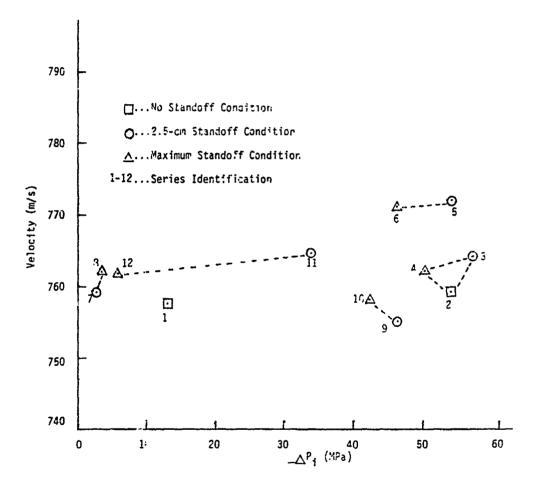


Figure 10. Velocity versus  $-\Delta P_{1}$  (Propellant Lot Rad-77H-069806)

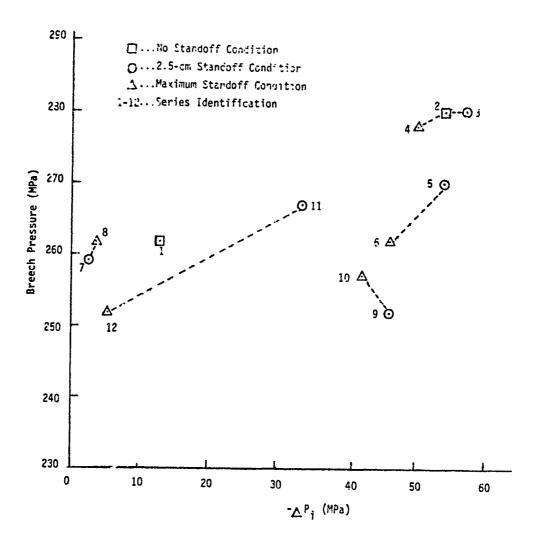


Figure 11. Breech Pressure versus  $-\Delta P_1$  (Propellant Lot Rad-77H-069806)

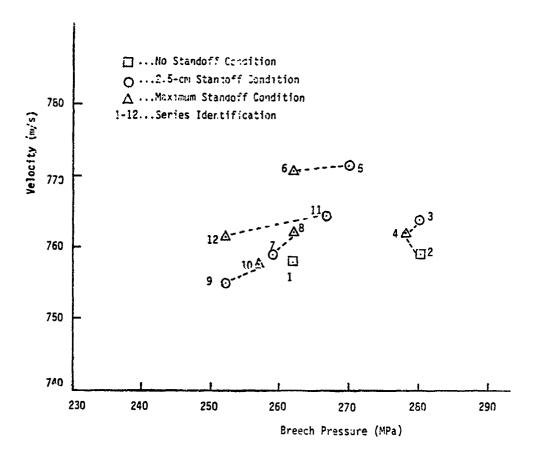


Figure 12. Velocity versus Breech Pressure (Propellant Lot Rad-77H-069806)

SUMMARY OF FIRING DATA\* FOR STANDARD AND FULL-BORE CHARGES, BASE-IGNITED (PROPELLANT LOT RAD-79E-069960) TABLE 7.

Basepad Type	Two Part Basepad:** 28 g BP, Class 5 56 g CBI	Basepad: 84 g BP, Class 1	Basepad: 84 g BP, Class 3
à €	Tv 28	88 84	84 84
Ignition Delay (ms)	18. (8.3)	24. (10.4) 39. 41.	31. 21. 89. 62. 56.
- AP <sub>i</sub> (MPa)	68. (7.8)	50. (3.6) 75. 59.	54. 57. 58. 65.
P <sub>max</sub> (MPa)	292. (10.6)	260. (6.3) 303. 261.	259. 261. 255. 250. 258.
Muzzle Velocity (m/s)	791. (3.9)	772. (3.6) 791. 776.	773. 774. 772. 770.
Charge Diameter	Full Bore	r ::	Std. Diam. " " " " "
Charge Standoff (cm)	0°0)	2.5 (0.0) 7.6 12.7	2.5 0 7.6 12.7 20.3
No. Rds.	Ŋ	3	пыпын
Series	13	14	15

\* Sample standard deviation is shown in parentheses; basepad weight is 84 g. \*\* Basepad divided into two concentric circles. The center circle contained Class 1 black powder; the remaining area contained CBI. The effect of charge standoff (Table 7) on  $P_{\text{max}}$ ,  $-\Delta P_{\text{i}}$ , and muzzle velocity is minimal for the standard-diameter charges (Series 15). Apparently the increase in annular ullage from full-bore to standard-diameter configurations offset the effects of both charge standoff and the faster burning black powder igniter, thus keeping the  $-\Delta P_{\text{i}}$ 's from building to catastrophic levels. Ignition delay was inconsistent, showing a maximum at an intermediate charge standoff.

In Series 14,  $P_{max}$ ,  $-\Delta P_i$ , and muzzle velocity have the same nominal values at 2.5-cm and 12.7-cm standoffs with a maximum occurring at the intermediate 7.6-cm standoff. Ignition delay increased as charge standoff increased. More rounds would have to be fired to establish if charge standoff is one of the conditions for inducing large  $-\Delta P_i$ 's for this series as well as for Series 13 which was fired at only one standoff.

The data for all the rounds in the three series are plotted as shown on Figures 13, 14, and 15. In addition, the averaged value for the five rounds in each of Series 13 and 15 and four rounds of Series 14 are superimposed on the plots. The data for the 7.6-cm standoff (Series 14) were not included in the average of this series because the abnormally large  $P_{\text{max}}$  and  $-\Delta P_{i}$  were not typical for the charge standoff. Series 15 with the same range of standoffs and using a more energetic basepad for ignition did not exhibit wide variations in  $P_{\text{max}}$  and  $-\Delta P_{i}$ . Figures 13 and 14 show, respectively, that the dependence of velocity and  $P_{\text{max}}$  on  $-\Delta P_{i}$  is divided, roughly, into two groups, delineated by a  $-\Delta P_{i}$  of 65 MPa. Below this value, fairly large excursions in  $-\Delta P_{i}$  produce relatively small "average" changes in  $P_{\text{max}}$  and velocity. When  $-\Delta P_{i}$  increases beyond -65 MPa, a fairly large increase in  $P_{\text{max}}$  and velocity is noted. Velocity dependence on  $P_{\text{max}}$  even with large  $-\Delta P_{i}$ 's, is fairly linear, increasing with increasing  $P_{\text{max}}$  (Figure 15).

3. Propellant Lot RAD-77G-069805. Four full-bore diameter, base-ignited series were tested with this lot of propellant. Basepad composition, charge standoff and charge diameter were again varied to encourage and control the formation of large pressure waves. The goal remained to generate similarly high levels of pressure waves via different mechanisms to determine whether or not correspondingly similar increases in maximum chamber pressure occurred. Table 8 gives a summary of the data. The standard deviation is shown in parenthesis if more than three rounds were fired at one condition (standoff, etc.).

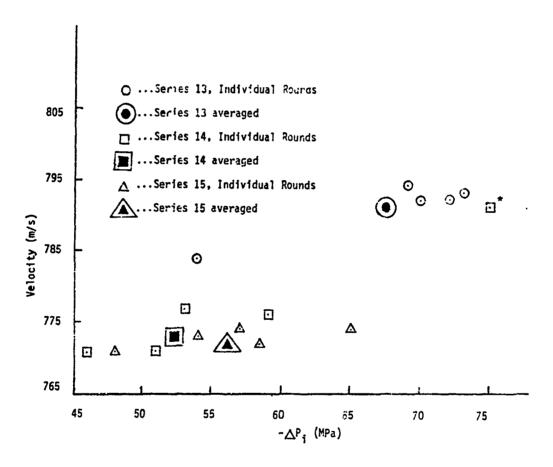


Figure 13. Velocity versus  $-\Delta P_i$  (Propellant Lot Rad-79E-069960) \*This round from Series 14 was not included in the series average.

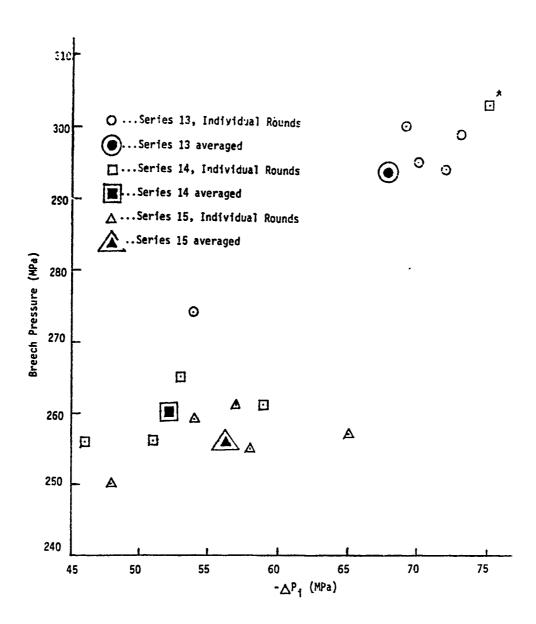


Figure 14. Breech Pressure versus  $-\Delta P_i$  (Propellant Lot Rad-79E-069960) \*This round from Series 14 was not included in the series average.

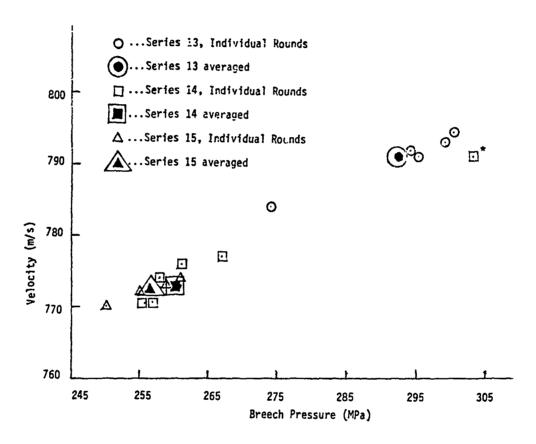


Figure 15. Velocity versus 2reech Pressure (Propellant Lot Rad-79E-069960) \*This round from Series 14 was not included in the series average.

SUMMARY OF FIRING DATA\* FOR FULL-BORE CHARGES, BASE-IGNITED (PROPELLANT LOT RAD-77G-069805) TABLE 8.

Basepad Type	Two Part Basepad:** 28 g BP, Class 5 56 g CBI	Two Part Basepad:** 28 g BP, Class 5 56 g CBI Propellant: Bottom	1/3 statked	Basepad: 84 g CBI		Basepad: 84 g BP, Class 5
Ignition Delay (ms)	37. (22.8)	25.	12.	92.	153. (23.9)	16.
-∆P <sub>i</sub> (MPa)	87. (17.4)	.09	116.	. 66	99. (6.5)	112.
P <sub>max</sub> (MPa)	340. (31.9)	300.	404.	336.	355. (21.9)	468.
Muzzle Velocity (m/s)	796. (18.5)	797.	823.	795.	801.	825.
Charge Diameter & Type	Full-Bore Random- loaded	Full-Bore 1/3 stacked		Full-Bore Random-	רסמתמת	Full-Bore Random- Loaded
Charge Standoff (cm)	(0.0)	0	0	2.5	(0.0)	2.5
No. Rds.	ហ	6	H	<b>-</b>	4	г
Series	16	17***		18		19

Sample standard deviation is shown in parentheses for three or more rounds; total basepad weight is 84

\*\* Basepad divided into 2 concentric circles. The center circle contained Class 5 Black Powdor; the remaining area contained CBI. \*\*\* One round of this series listed separately because of very large  $P_{max}$  and  $-\Delta P_{i}$ .

All the rounds for Series 16-17 were fired with the two-part basepad composition at no standoff in order to induce large  $-\Delta P_i$ 's. Because of the extremely high  $-\Delta P_i$  for one round of Series 17, both basepad composition and charge standoff were changed for the first round of Series 18. After ascertaining the functioning of this basepad configuration did not induce excessive  $-\Delta P_i$ 's, the remainder of Series 18 was fired at no standoff. The first round of Series 19 with a Class 5, Black Powder basepad and 2.5-cm standoff produced such a large pressure and  $-\Delta P_i$  that no further rounds were done in fear of damaging the tube.

The data for all the rounds of Series 16-19 are plotted as shown in Figures 16, 17, and 18. In addition, the "averaged" values for all rounds in Series 16 and 18 and two rounds of Series 17 are superimposed on the plots. The third round of Series 17 (extremely high  $P_{\text{max}}$  and  $-\Delta P_i$  is shown as an individual point. Except for Series 19 and the first round of Series 18, this data represents a zero-standoff condition. The  $P_{\text{max}}$  and  $-\Delta P_i$  are the highest for the three lots of propellant used in these tests. Ignition delay varies directly with the quickness of the basepad being the slowest for CBI alone and the fastest for Class 5, Black Powder. Although the data scatter is large, projectile velocity (Figure 16) and  $P_{\text{max}}$  (Figure 17) increase with increasing  $-\Delta P_i$ .  $P_{\text{max}}$  is especially sensitive to the high  $-\Delta P_i$ 's, ranging from 300 to 400 MPa as  $-\Delta P_i$  goes from 60 to 115 MPa. Velocity is directly dependent on  $P_{\text{max}}$ , increasing as the pressure increases (Figure 18).

4. All Propellant Lots. As previously noted, three different propellant lots, as well as various charge diameters, charge lengths, ignition systems (base vs centercore), charge standoffs, charge propellant porosity (random vs stacked propellant), and igniter brisance (black powder vs CBI) were employed to induce pressure-wave formation in the 155-mm howitzer. The average value of  $P_{\text{max}}$  and  $-\Delta P_{\text{i}}$  for each of the nineteen series aforementioned is snown on Figure 19. As  $-\Delta P_{\text{i}}$  ranged from 2 to 116 MPa,  $P_{\text{max}}$  increased from 250 to 468 MPa.

#### IV. CONCLUSIONS

Although several of the series previously discussed were of insufficient size to ascertain standoff effects of different charge configurations, and round-to-round variation within series at the same standoff were somewhat large, several conclusions from the firings on the  $P_{\text{max}}$  vs  $-\Delta P_{\text{i}}$  sensitivity curve can be made.

1. The methods of inducing pressure waves produced a broad range of data with  $-\Delta P_{\rm i}$  (2 MPA to 116 MPa) increases generally accompanied by increases in  $P_{\rm max}$  (250 MPa to 468 MPa). Within the limits of reasonable

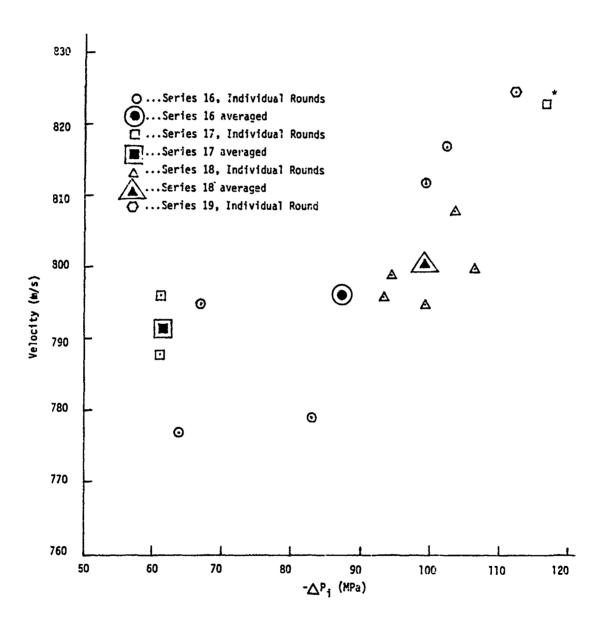


Figure 16. Velocity versus  $-\Delta P_1$  (Propellant Lot Rad-77G-069805) \*This round from Series 17 was not included in the series average.

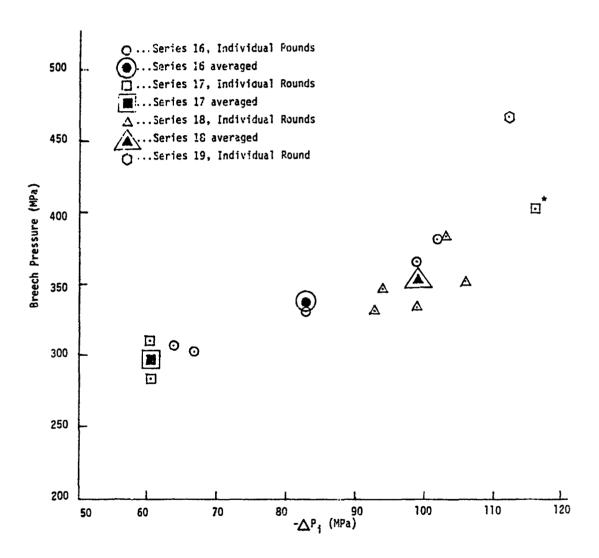


Figure 17. Breech Pressure versus  $-\Delta P_1$  (Propellant Lot Rad-77G-069805) \*This round from Series 17 was not included in the series average.

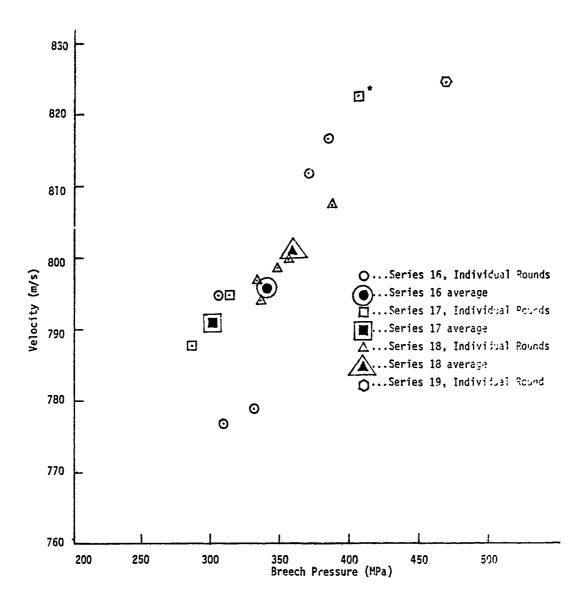


Figure 18. Velocity versus Breech Pressure (Propellant Lot Rad-77G-069805) \*This round from Series 17 was not included in the series average.

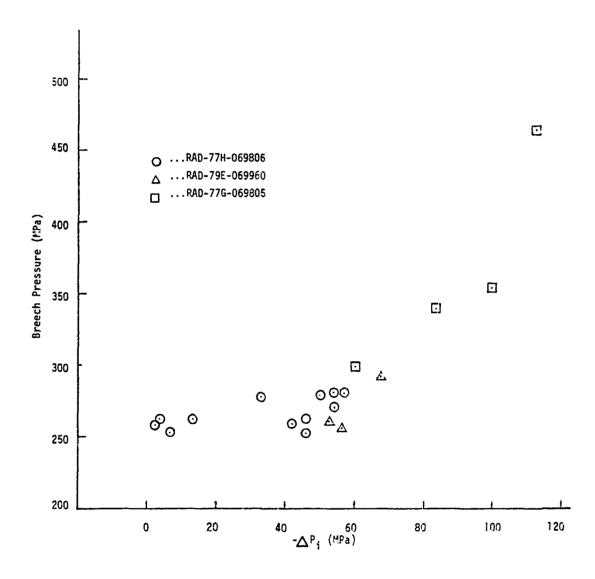


Figure 19. Breech Pressure versus - $\Delta P_1$  for Each of the 19 Series. (Propellant Lot Rad-77H-069806, RAD-79E-069960, RAD-77G-069805)

occasion-to-occasion differences and possible experimental errors, the existence of signific ntly different  $P_{\text{max}}$  vs  $-\Delta P_{\text{i}}$  curves for this charge/weapon combination could not be demonstrated.

2. A serious concern is raised by the apparent differences in the ease with which one could generate substantial pressure waves in similar charge configurations using different propellant production lots. Current safety assessment procedures usually employ a single propellant lot. If yet undefined lot-to-lot propellant differences can influence the propensity of a given charge design to exhibit large pressure waves, then projected failure rates based on an expected population of firing data consisting of firings with only one propelling charge lot may well be inappropriate for different propellant charge lots.

## REFERENCES

- 1. A.J. Budka and J.D. Knapton, "Pressure Wave Generation in Gun Systems: A Survey," Ballistic Research Laboratory, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD, Memorandum Report 2567, December 1975. (AD #B008893L)
- 2. D.W. Culbertson, M.C. Shamblen, and J.S. O'Brasky, "Investigation of 5"/38 Gun In-Bore Ammunition Malfunctions," Naval Weapons Laboratory, Dahlgren, VA, TR-2624, December 1971.
- M.C. Shamblen and J.S. O'Brasky, "Investigation of 8"/55 Close Aboard Malfunctions," Naval Weapons Laboratory, Dahlgren, VA, TR-2753, April 1973.
- 4. P.J. Olenick, "Investigation of the 76-mm/62 Caliber Mark 75 Gun Mount Malfunctic.s," Naval Surface Weapons Center, Dahlgren, VA, TR-3411, October 1975.
- 5. E.V. Clarke, Jr. and I.W. May, "Subtle Effects of Low-Amplitude Pressure Wave Dynamics on the Ballistics Performance of Guns," 11th JANNAF Combustion Meeting, CPIA Publication 261, Vol. 1, pp. 141-156, December 1974.
- 6. A.W. Horst, I.W. May, and E.V. Clarke, Jr., "The Missing Link Between Pressure Waves and Breechblows," USA ARRADCOM, Ballistic Research Laboratory, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD, Memorandum Report 02849, July 1978. (A058354)

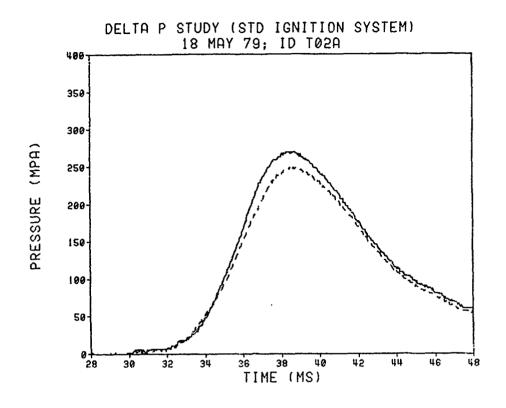
- 7. K.H. Russel and H.M. Goldstein, "Investigation and Screening of M17 Propellant Production for Lots Subject to Poor Low Temperature Performance, Picatinny Arsenal, Dover, NJ, DB-TR-7-61, June 1961.
- 8. N. Lockett, "British Work on Solid Propellant Ignition," <u>Bulletin of the First Symposium on Solid Propellant Ignition</u>, Solid Propellant <u>Information Agency</u>, Silver Spring, MD, September 1953.

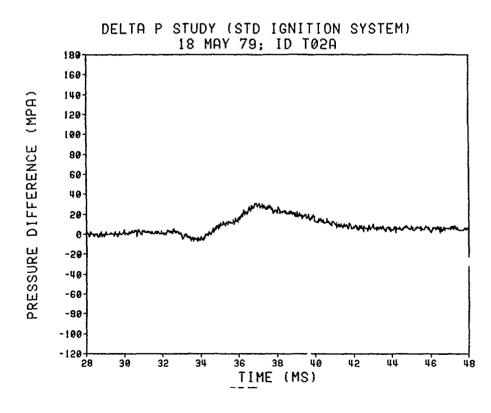
## APPENDIX

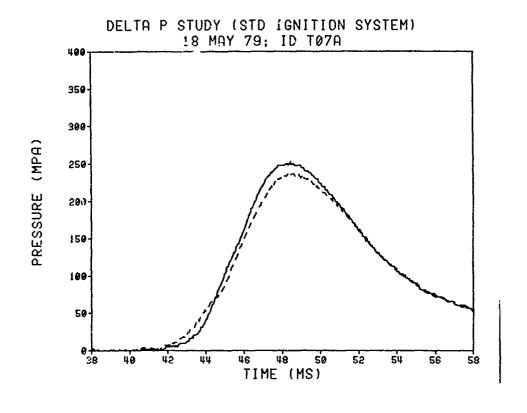
Computer-Generated Plots of Selected Data Channels
[Spindle (solid line) and Forward (dotted line) Pressure vs
Time, Pressure Difference vs Time]

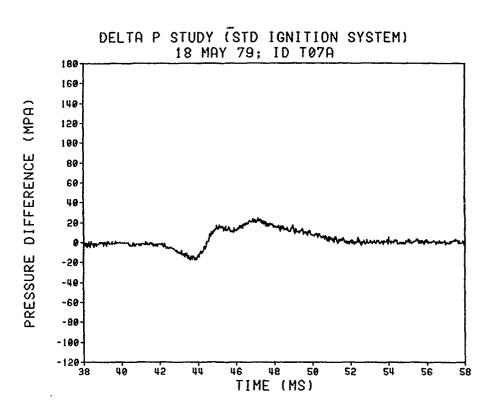
## APPENDIX INDEX

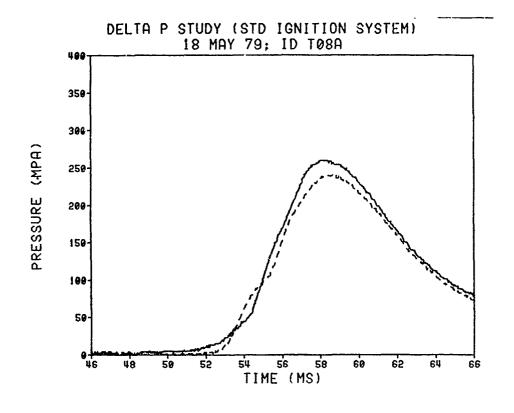
Series	Propellant Lot	Page
1	RAD-77H-069806	47
2	RAD-77H-069806	51
3	RAD-77H-069806	55
4	RAD-77H-069806	59
7	RAD-77H-069806	63
8	RAD-77H-069806	67
12	RAD-77H-069806	71
12	RAD-77H-069806	74
9.	RAD-77H-069806	78
10	RAD-77H-069806	82
5	RAD-77H-069806	86
6	RAD-77H-069806	90
13	RAD-79E-069960	93
14	RAD-79E-069960	98
15	RAD-79E-069960	103
16	RAD-77G-069805	108
17	RAD-77G-069805	113
18	RAD-77G-069805	116
19	RAD-77G-069805	121

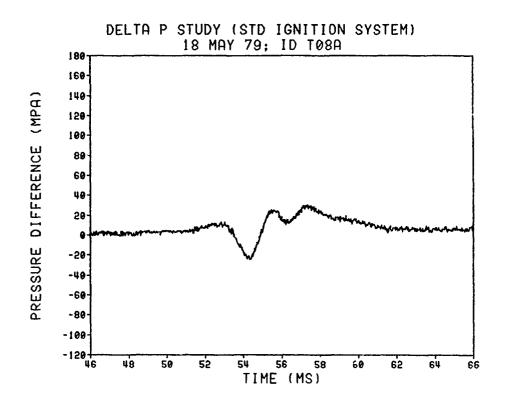


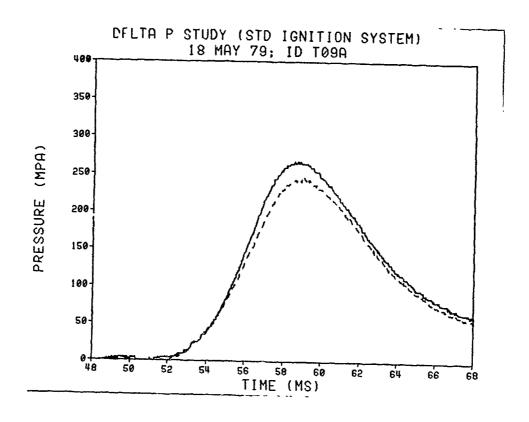


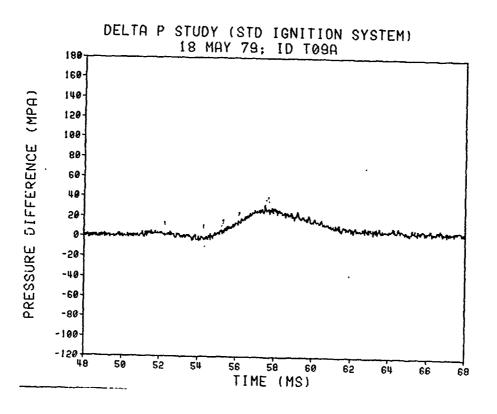


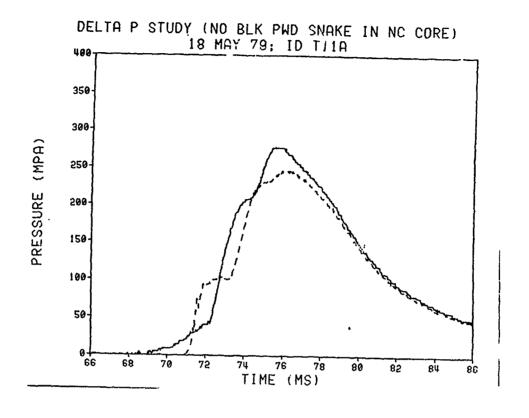


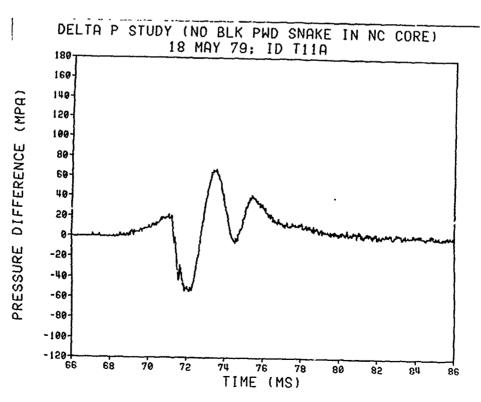


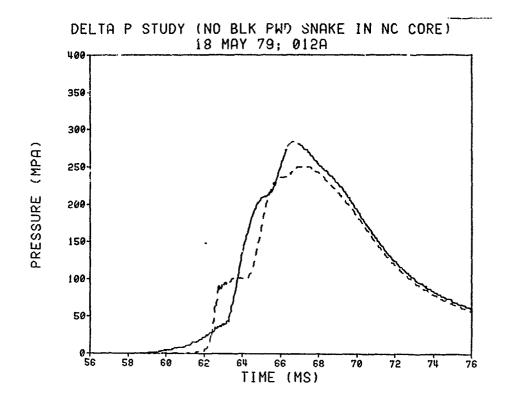


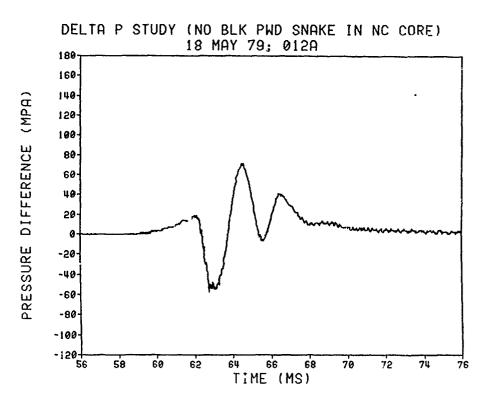




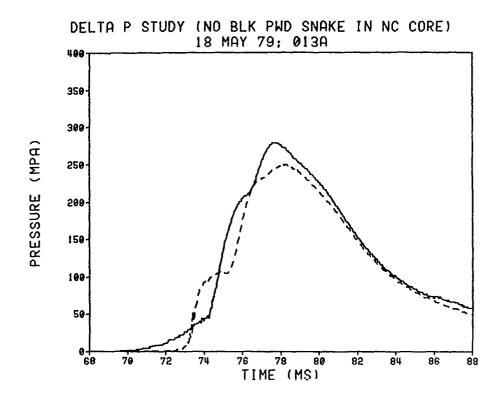


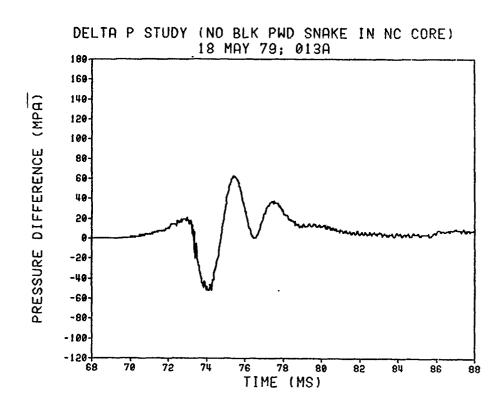


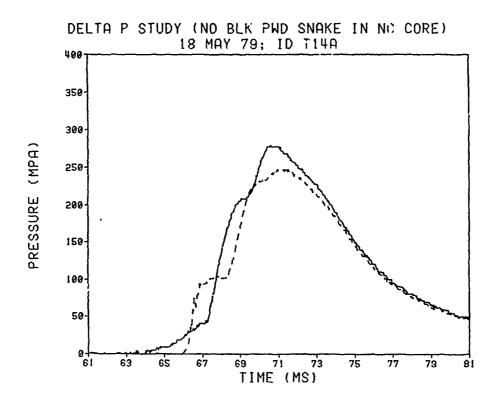


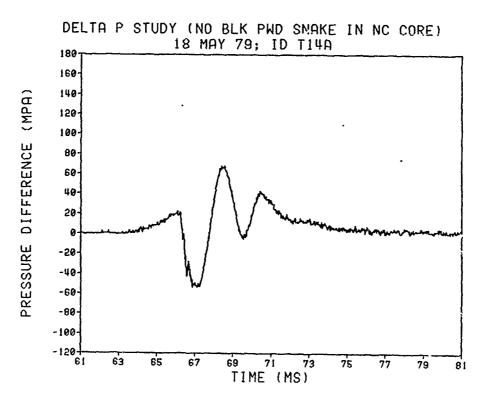


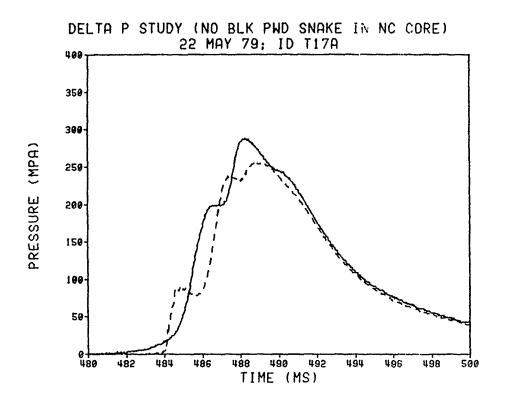
The second of th

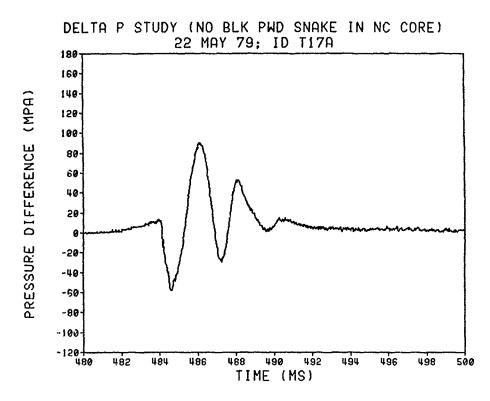


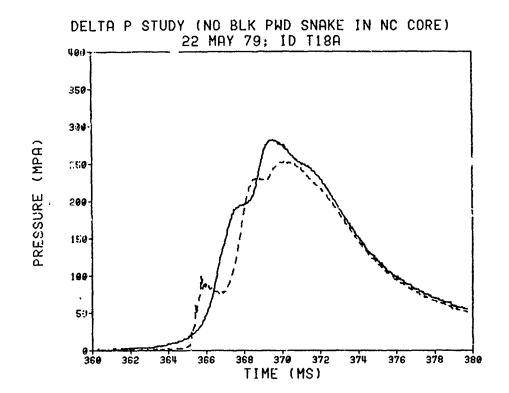


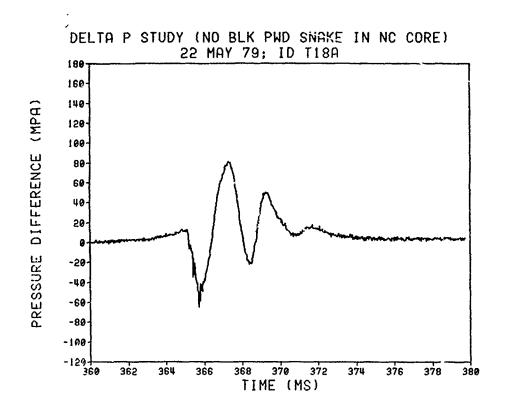


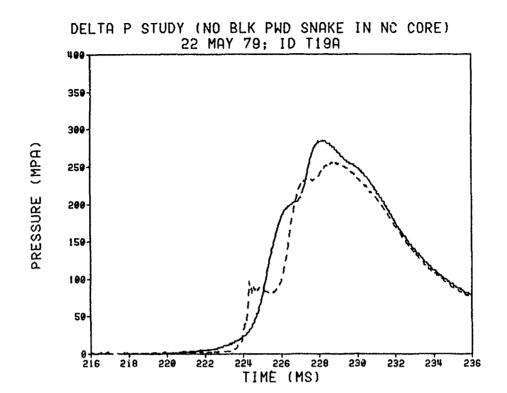


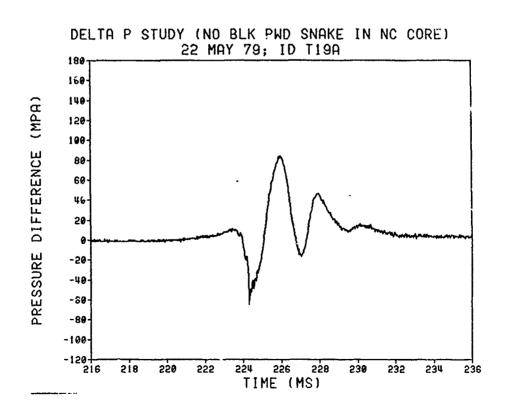


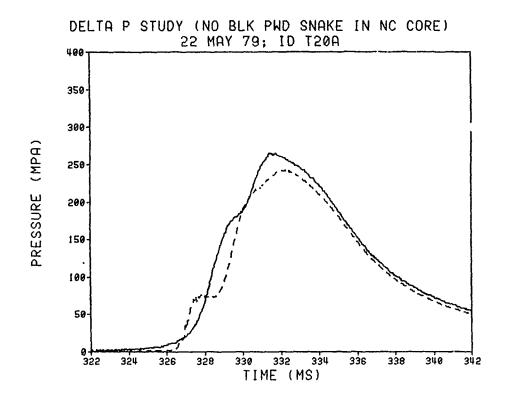


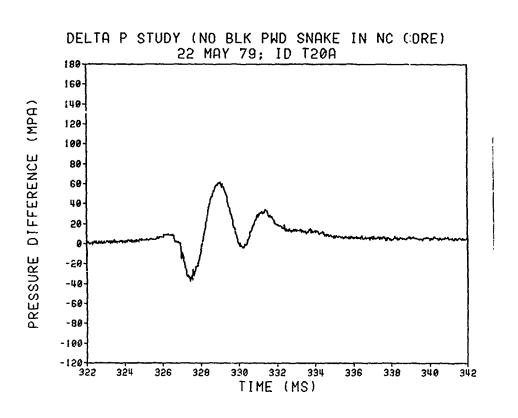


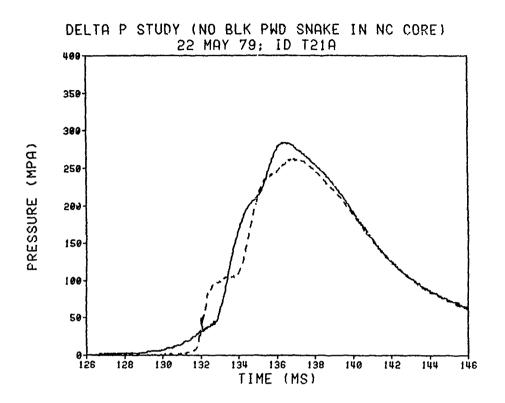


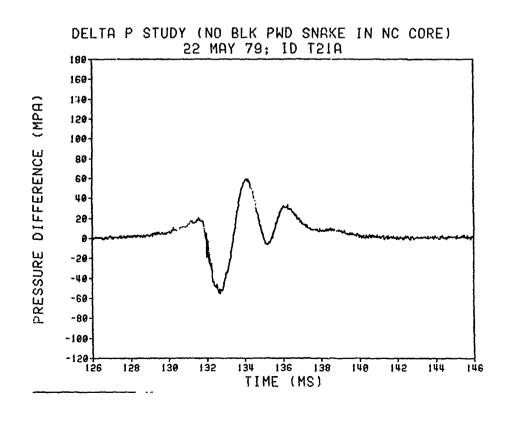


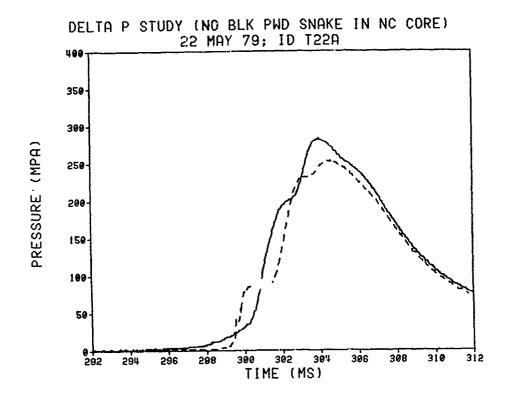


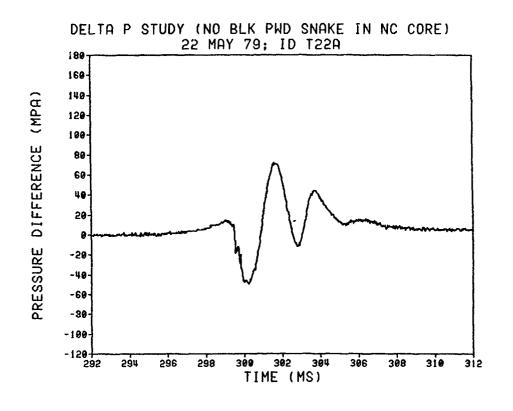


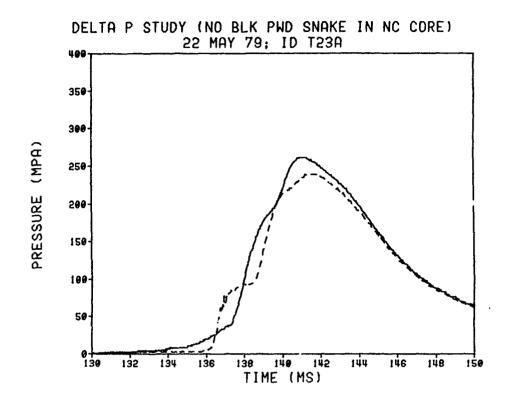


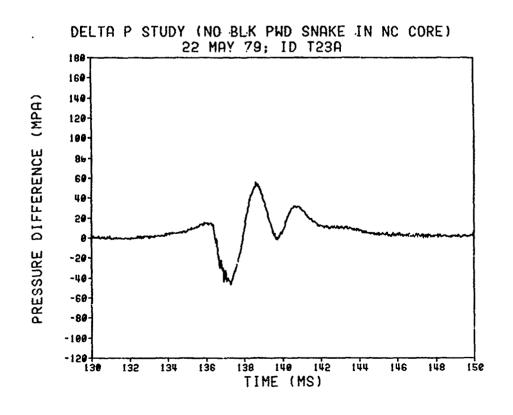


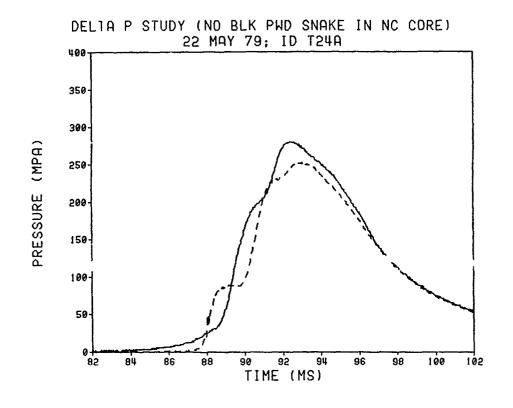


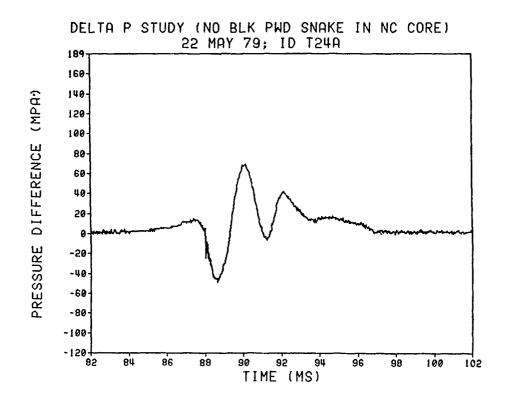


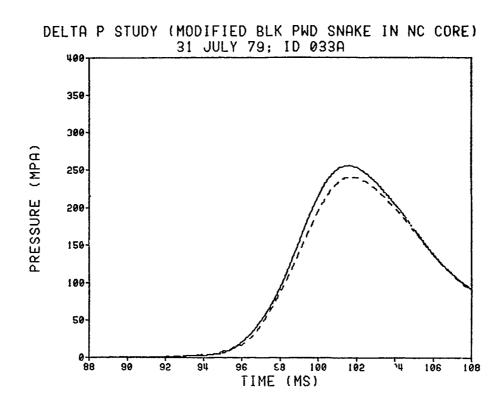


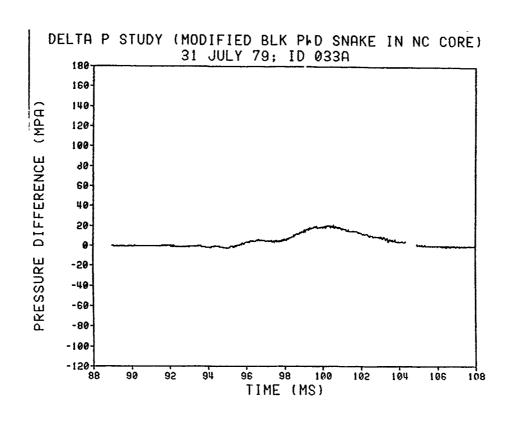








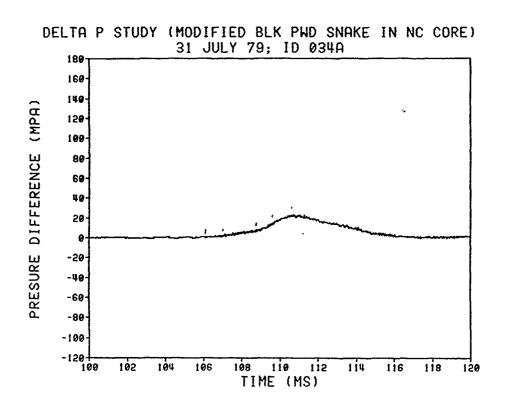




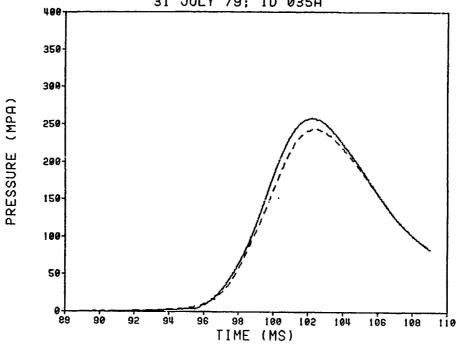
: 14

TIME (MS)

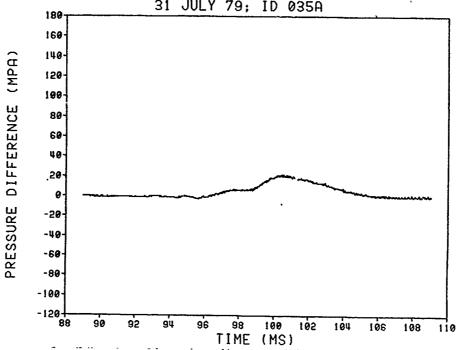
SERVICE TO THE PROPERTY OF THE



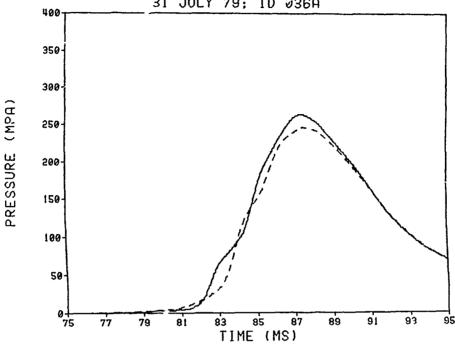
DELTA P STUDY (MODIFIED BLK PWD SNAKE IN NC CORE)
31 JULY 79; ID 035A



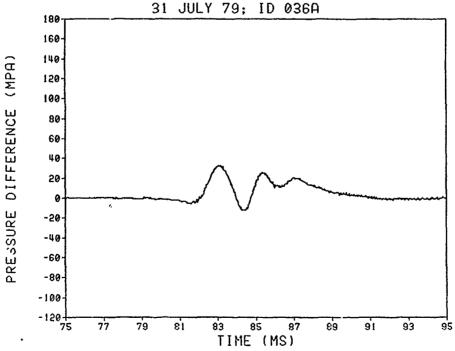
DELTA P STUDY (MODIFIED BLK PWD SNAKE IN NC CORE)
31 JULY 79; ID 035A



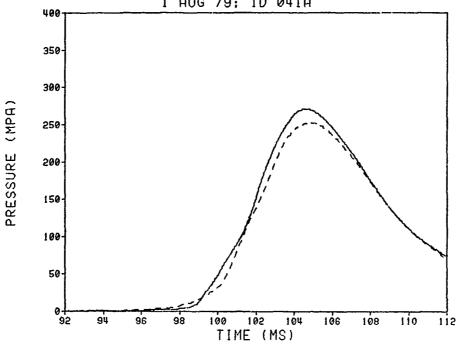
DELTA P STUDY (MODIFIED BLK PWD SNAKE IN NC CORE)
31 JULY 79; ID 236A



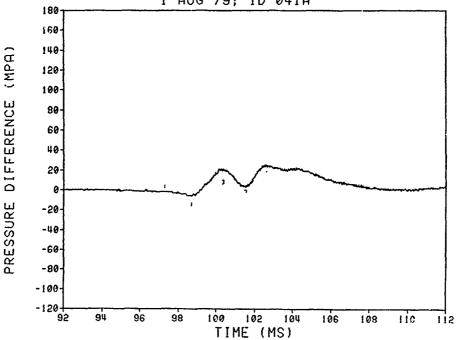
DELTA P STUDY (MODIFIED BLK PWD SNAKE IN NC CORE)



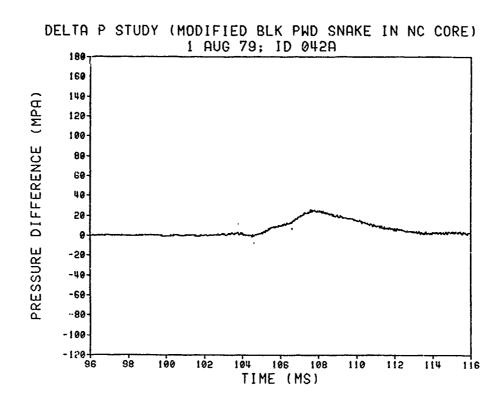
DELTA P STUDY (MODIFIED BLK PWD SNAKE IN NC CORE)
1 AUG 79: ID 041A



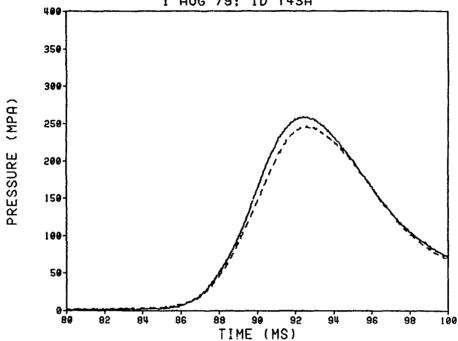
DELTA P STUDY (MODIFIED BLK PWD SNAKE IN NC CORE)
1 AUG 79; ID 041A



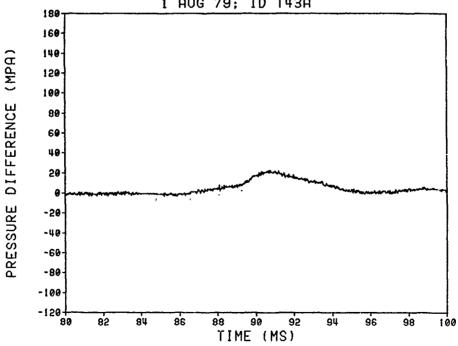
DELTA P STUDY (MODIFIED BLK PWD SNAKE IN NC CORE) 1 AUG 79; ID 042A 300-PRESSURE (MPA) 250-200-150-100-96 TIME (MS)



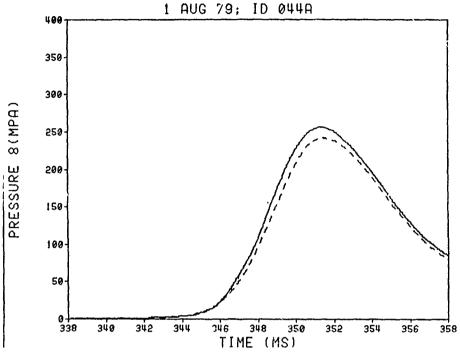
DELTA P STUDY (MODIFIED BLK PWD SNAKE IN NC CORE)
1 AUG 79: ID T43A

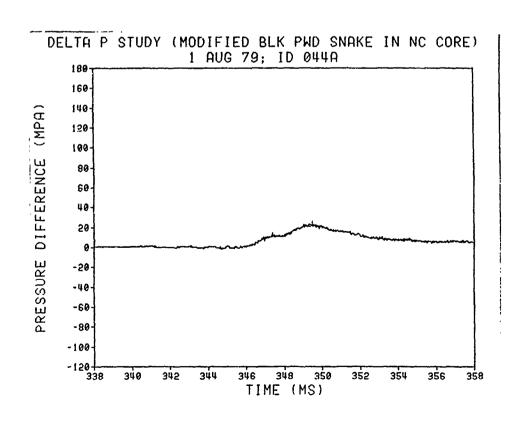


DELTA P STUDY (MODIFIED BLK PWD SNAKE IN NC CORE)
1 AUG 79; ID T43A

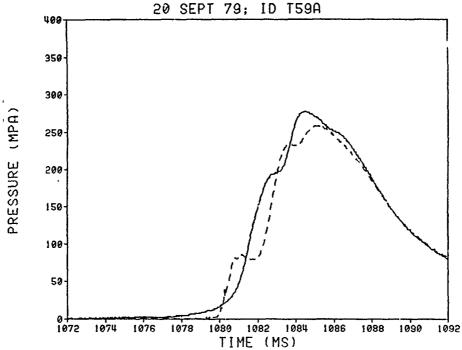


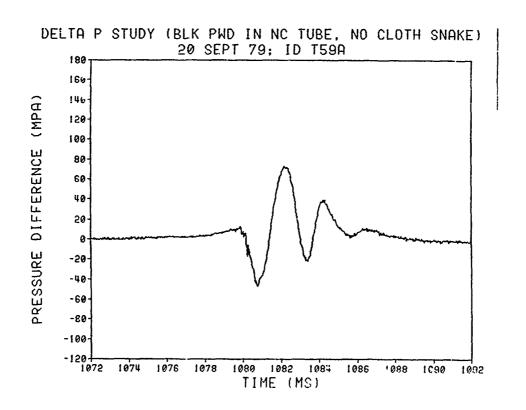
DELTA P STUDY (MODIFIED BLK PWD SNAKE IN NC CORE)



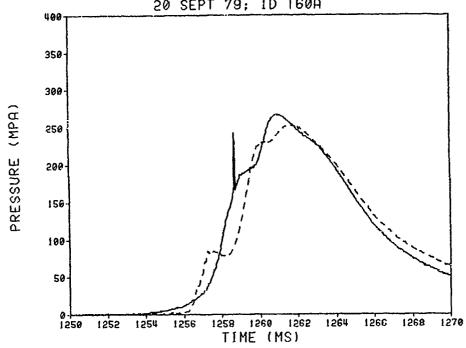


DELTA P STUDY (BLK PWD IN NC TUBE, NO CLOTH SNAKE)

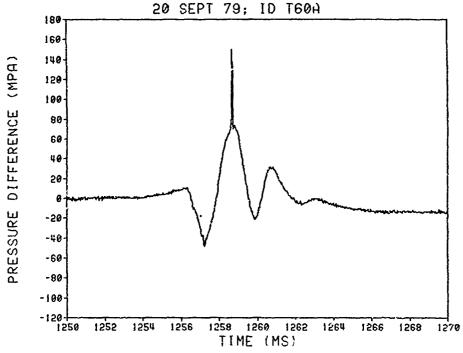




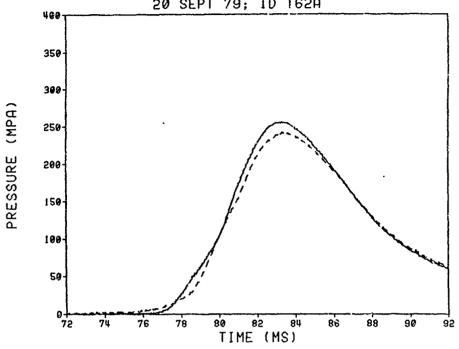
DELTA P STUDY (BLK PWD IN NC TUBE, NO CLOTH SNAKE) 20 SEPT 79; ID T60A



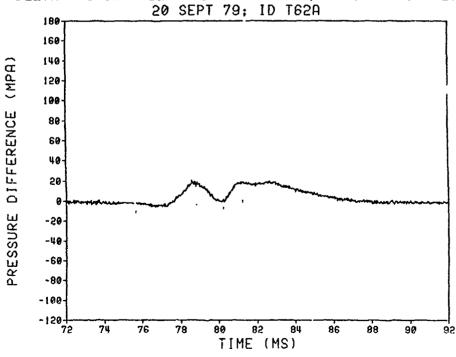
DELTA P STUDY (BLK PWD IN NC TUBE, NO CLOTH SNAKE)



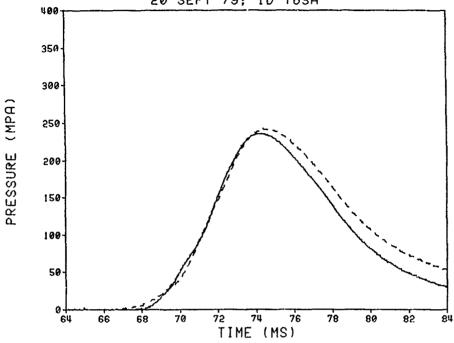
DELTA P STUDY (BLK PWD IN NC TUBE, NO CLOTH SNAKE) 20 SEPT 79; ID T62A



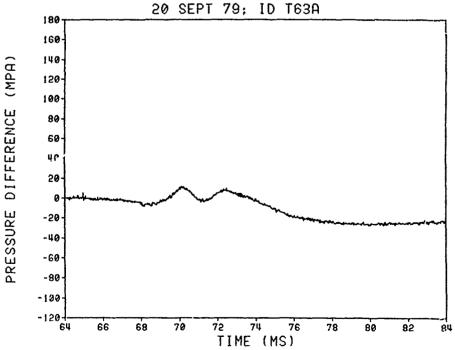
DELTA P STUDY (BLK PWD IN NC TUBE, NO CLOTH SNAKE)

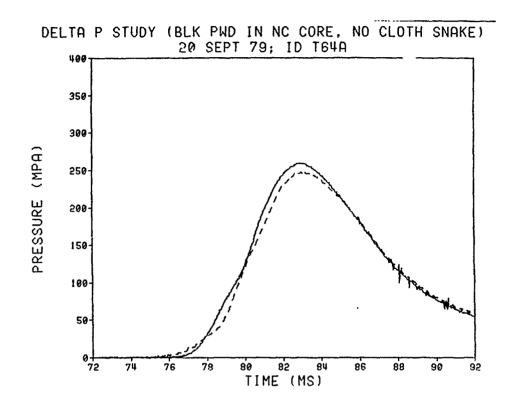


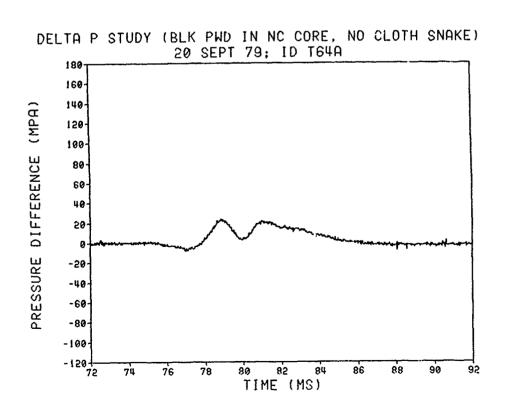
DELTA P STUDY (BLK PWD IN NC TUBE, NO CLOTH SNAKE)
20 SEPT 79; ID T63A



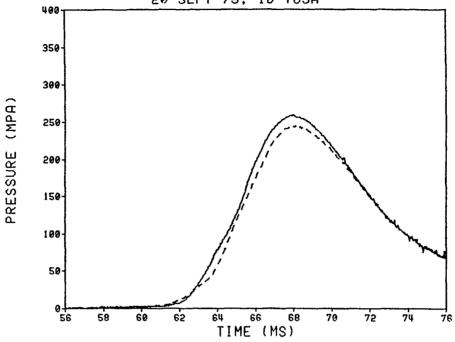
DELTA P STUDY (BLK PWD IN NC TUBE, NO CLOTH SNAKE)



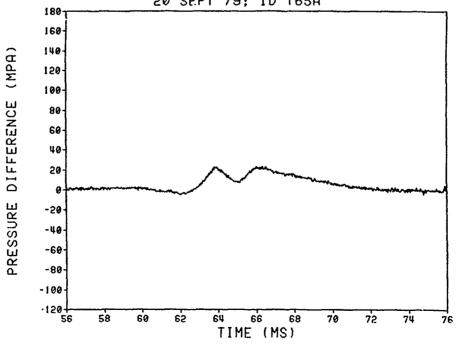




DELTA P STUDY (BLK PWD IN NC CORE, NO CLOTH SNAKE) 20 SEPT 79; ID T65A

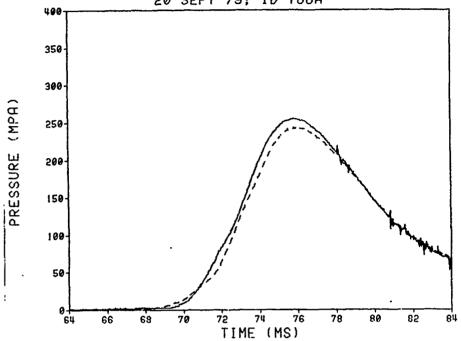


DELTA P STUDY (BLK PWD IN NC CORE, NO CLOTH SNAKE) 20 SEPT 79; ID T65A

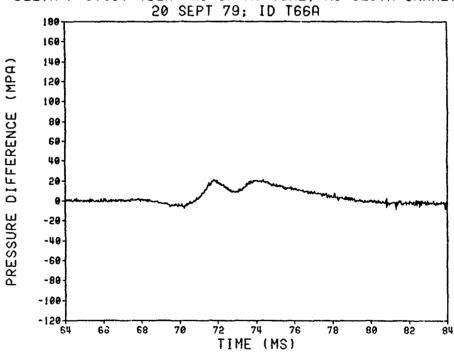


THE PARTY OF THE P

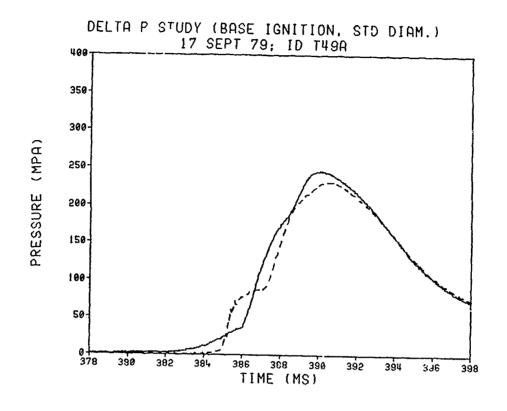
DELTA P STUDY (BLK PWD IN NC CORE, NO CLOTH SNAKE) 20 SEPT 79; ID T66A

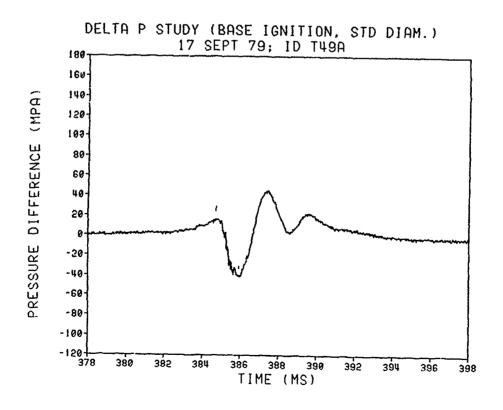


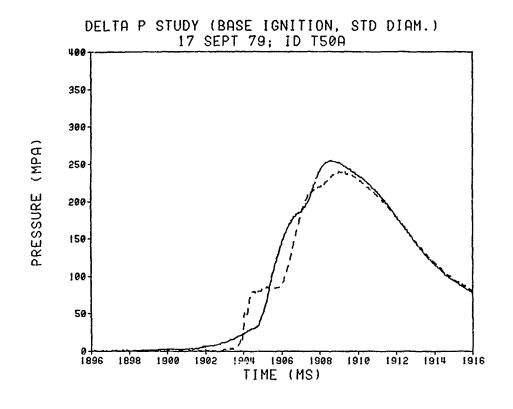
DELTA P STUDY (BLK PWD IN NC CORE, NO CLOTH SNAKE)

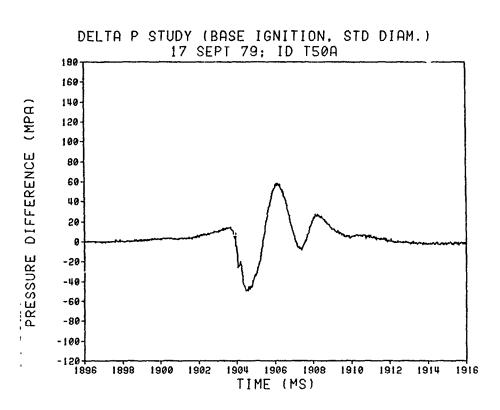


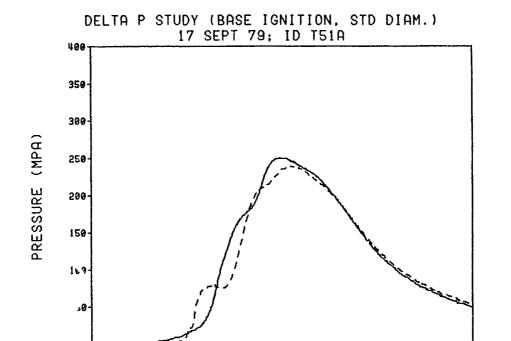
The Control of the Co





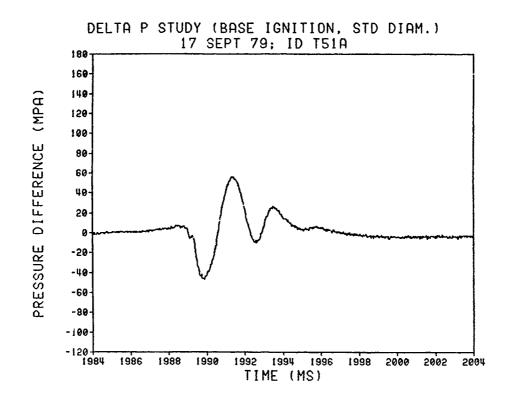


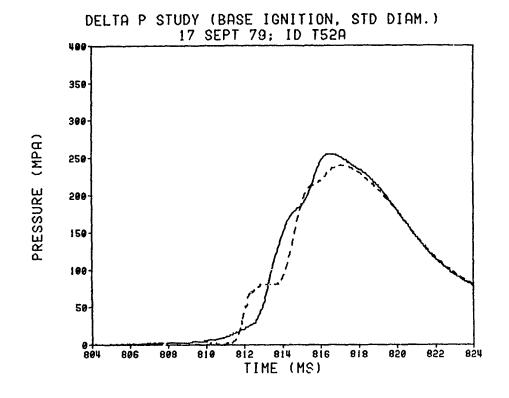


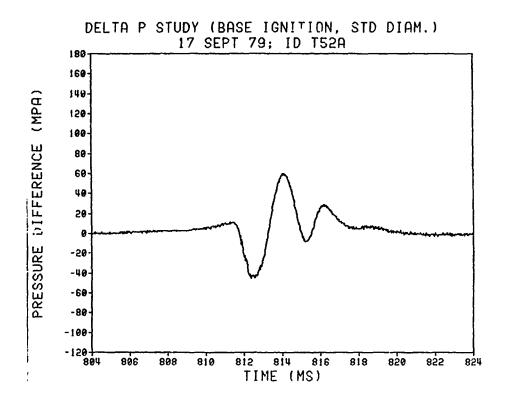


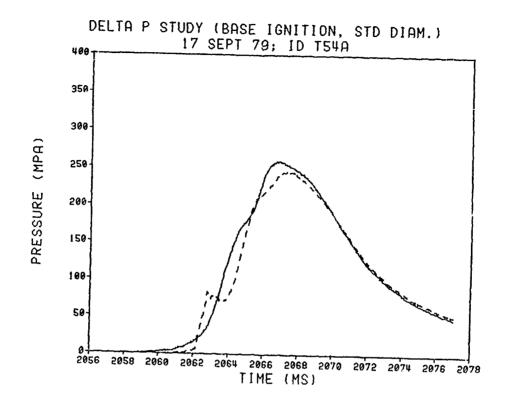
1992 1994 1996

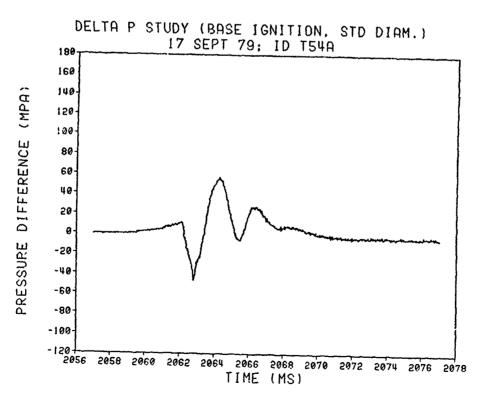
TIME (MS)

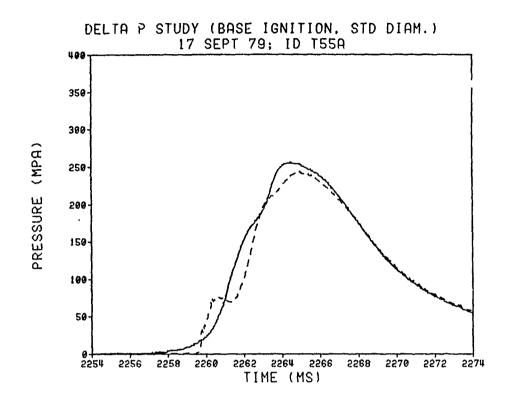


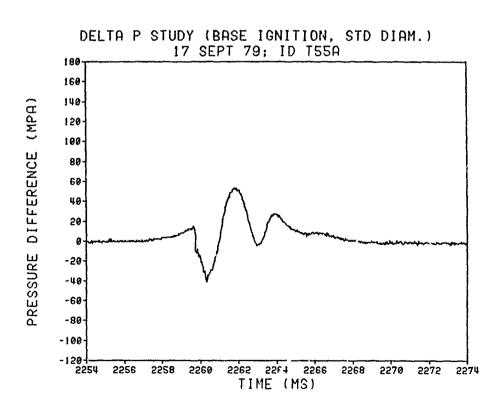


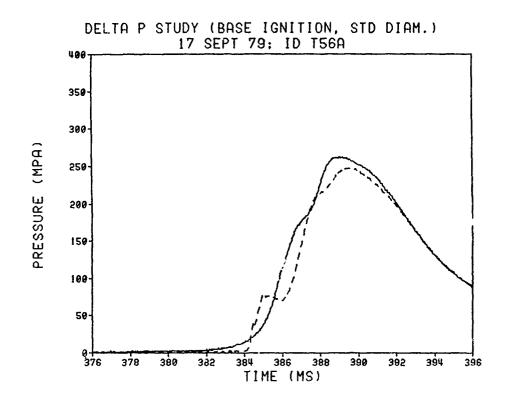


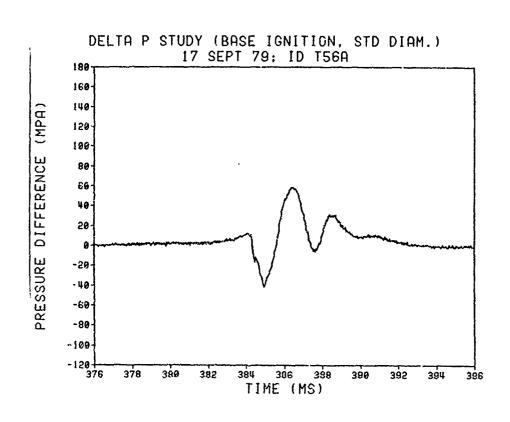


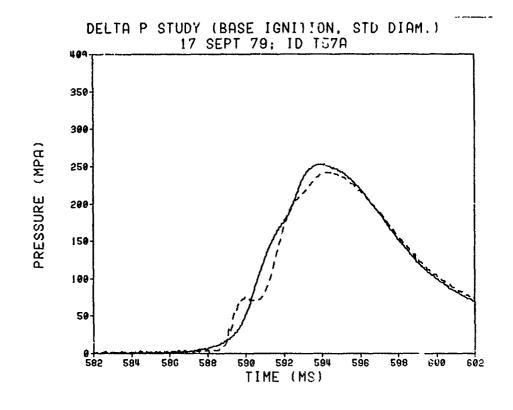


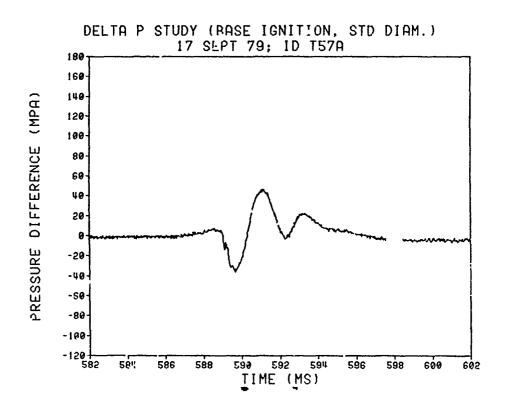


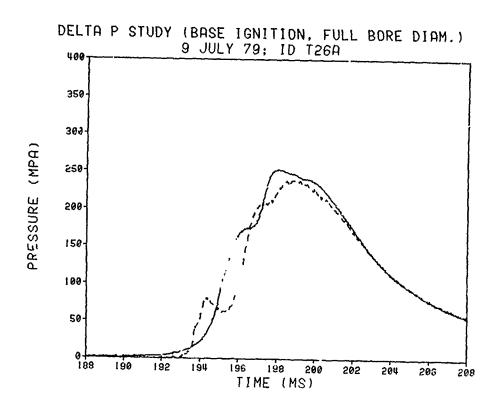


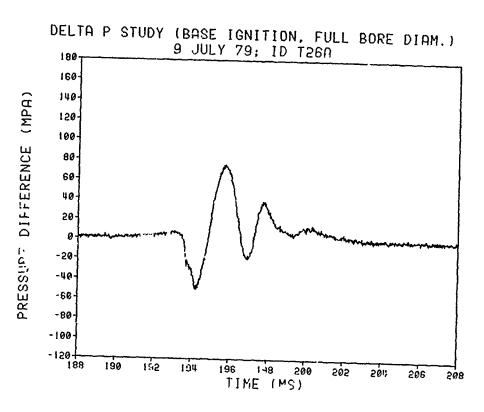


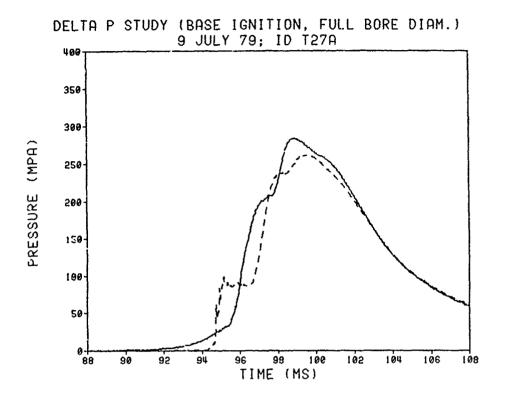


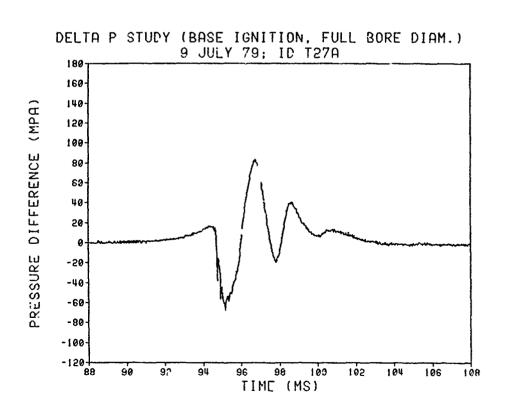


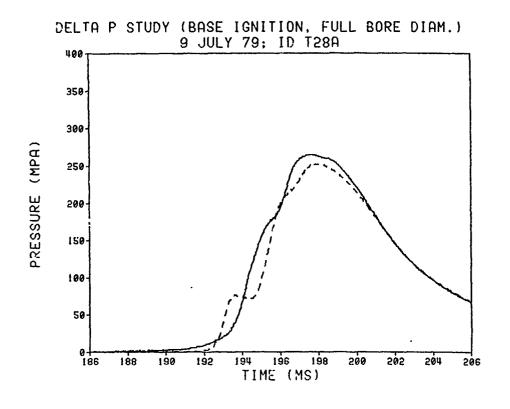




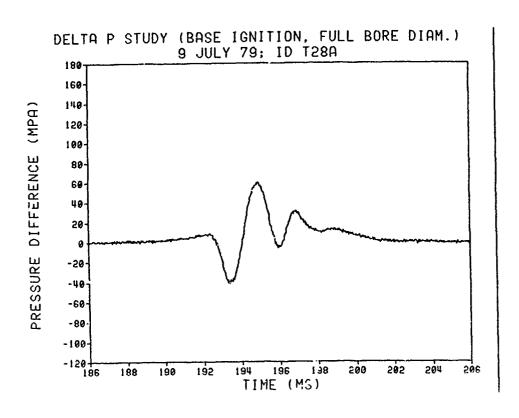


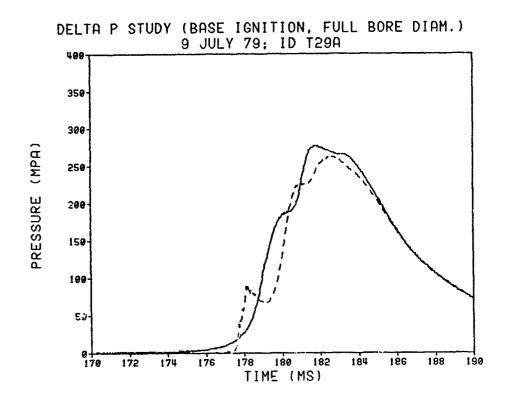


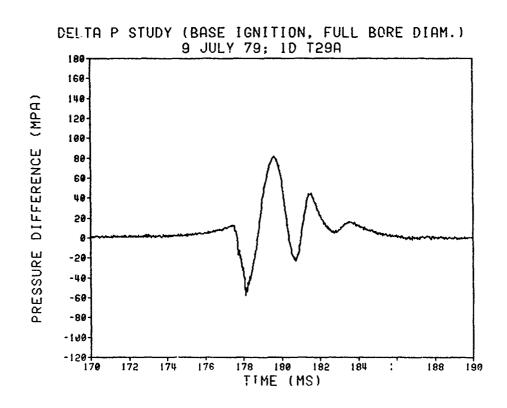


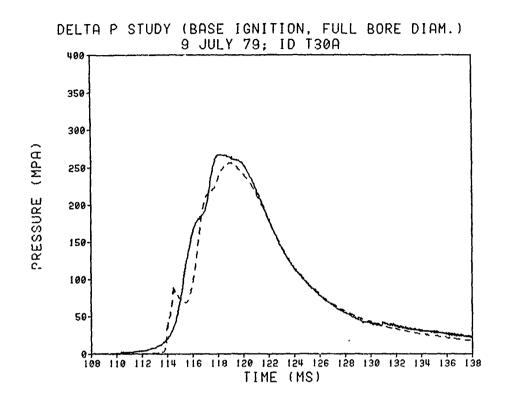


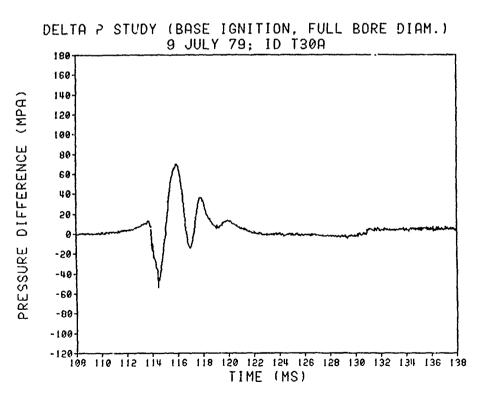
THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY O

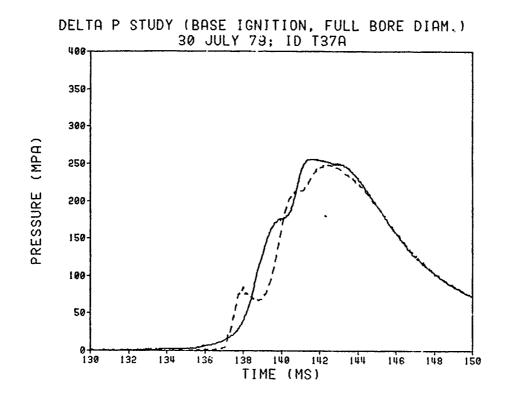


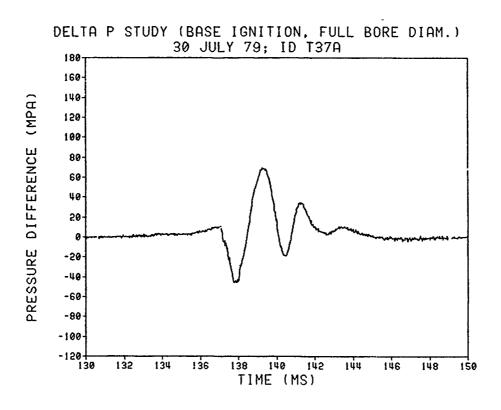


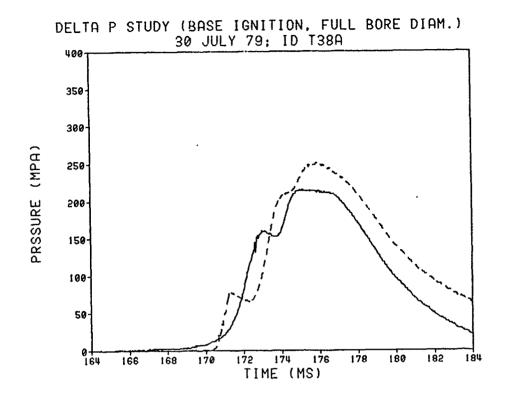




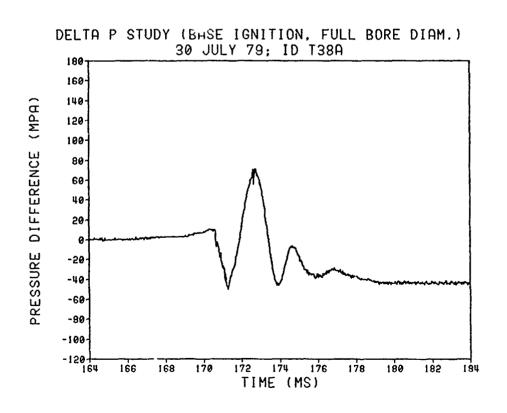


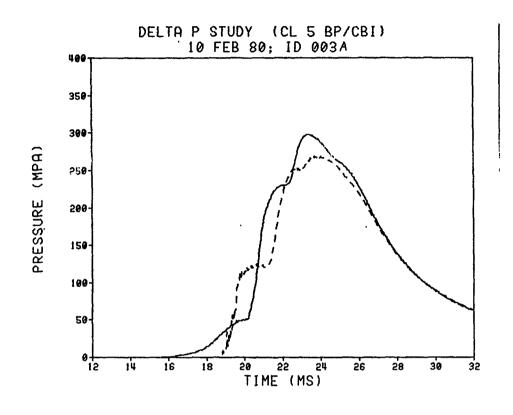


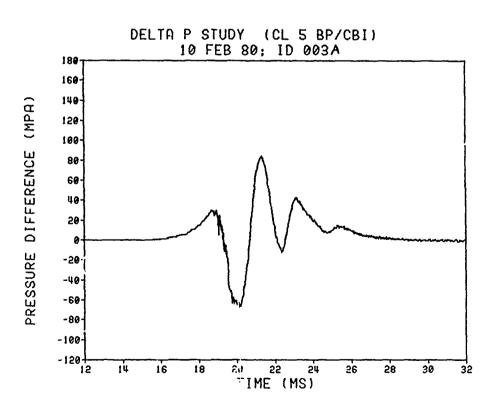


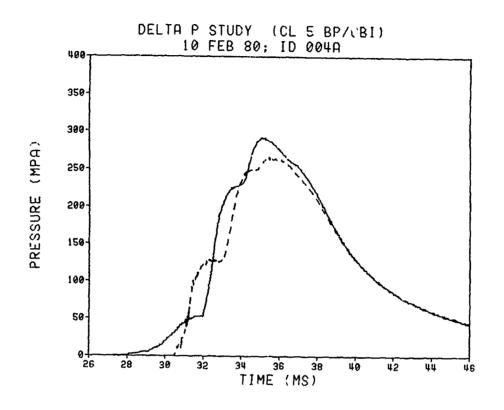


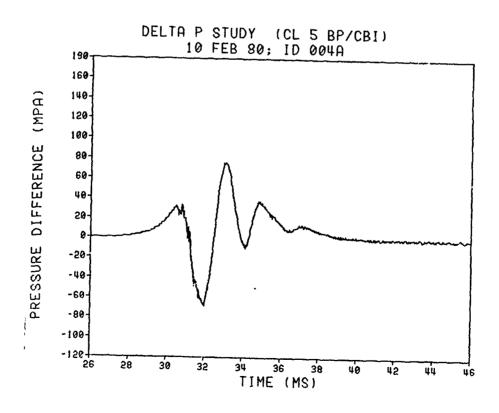
THE REPORT OF THE PROPERTY OF

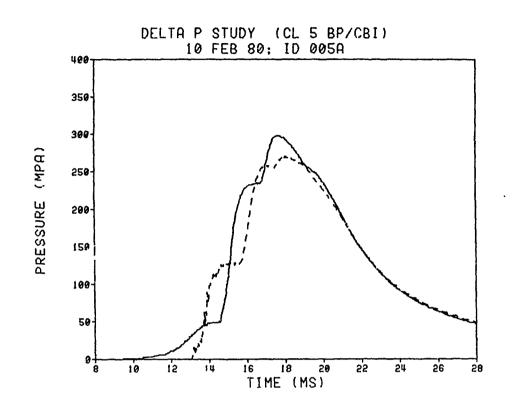


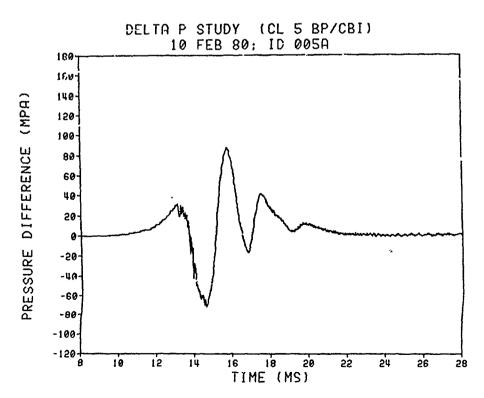


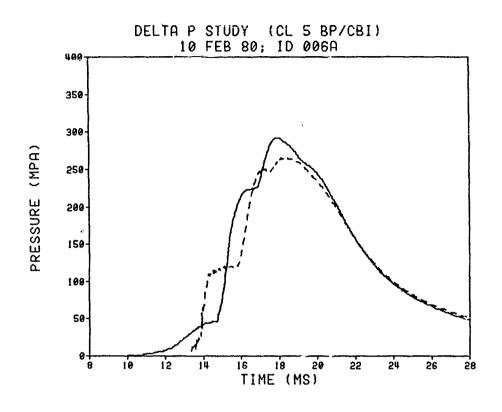


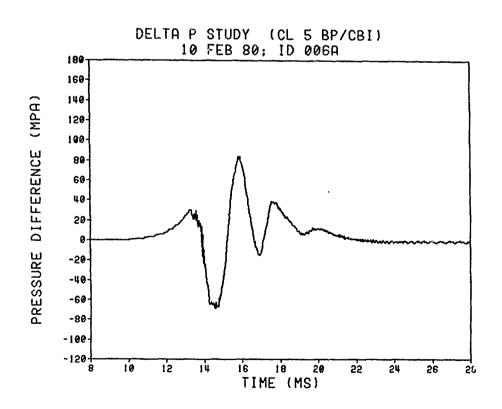


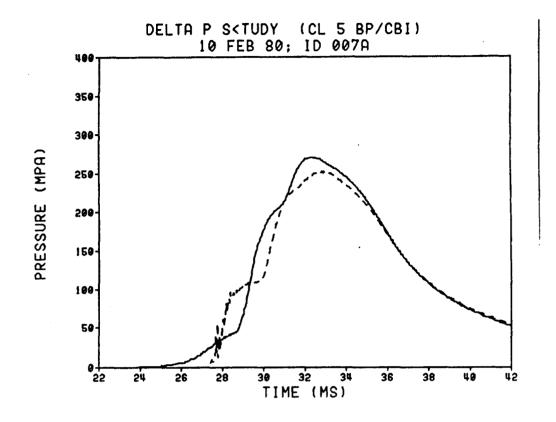


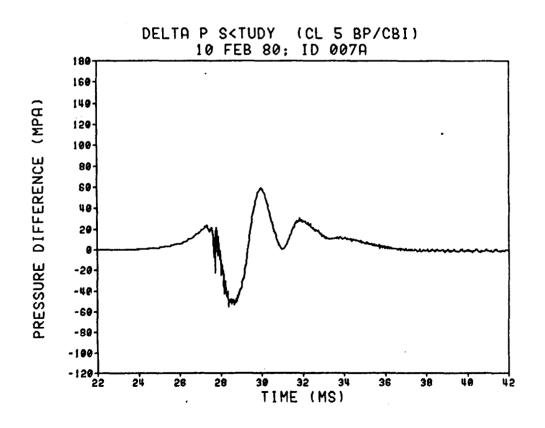


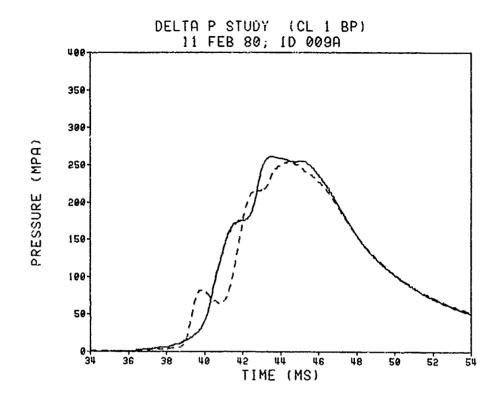


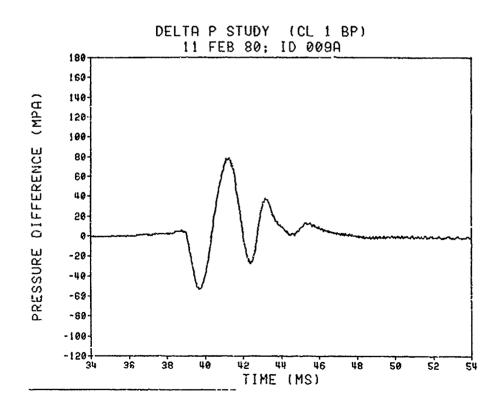


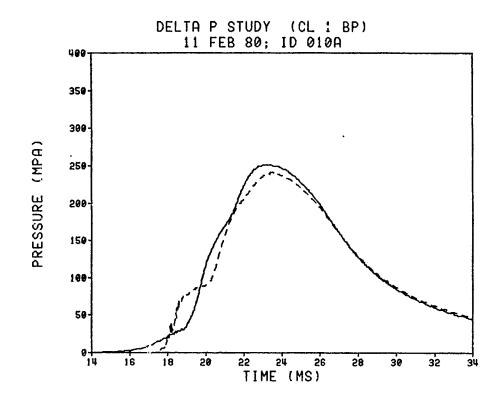


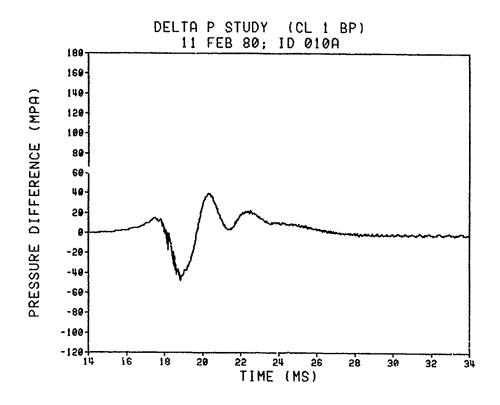


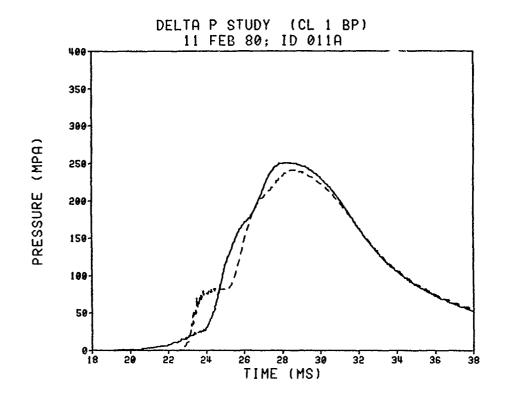


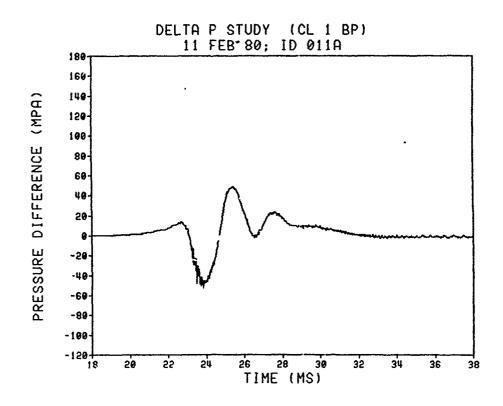


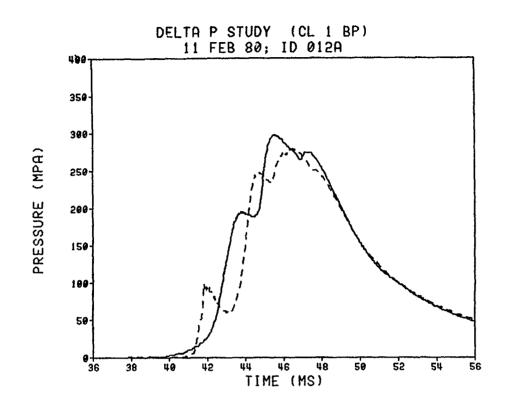


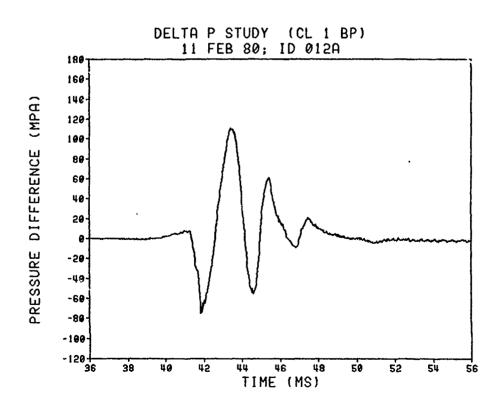


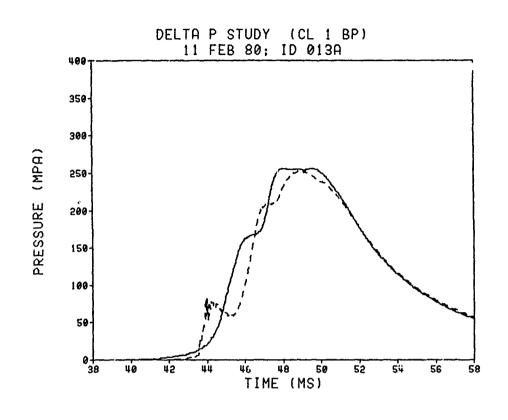


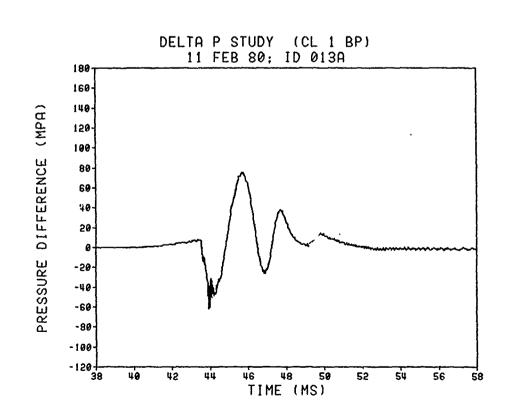


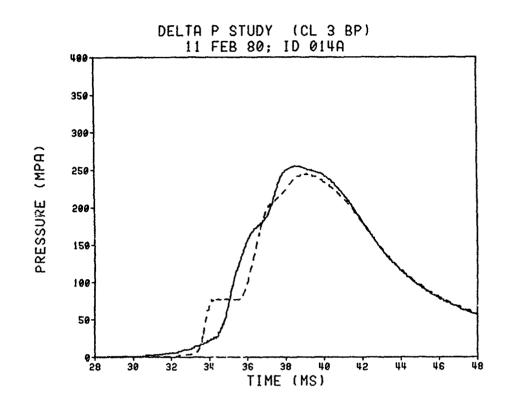


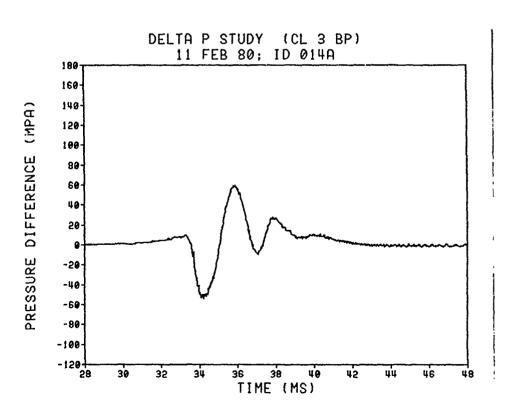


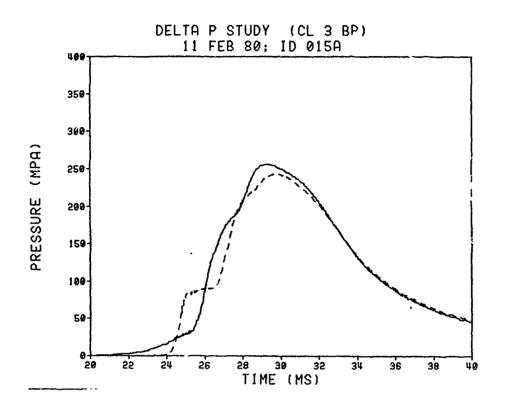


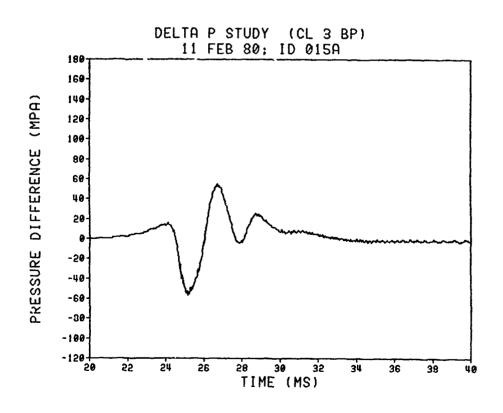


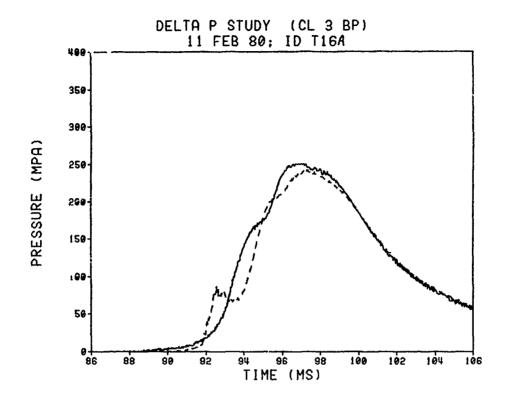


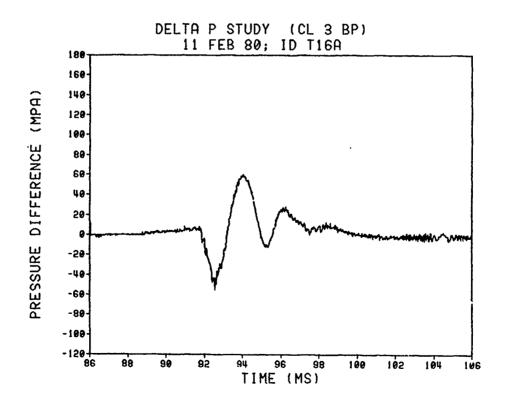


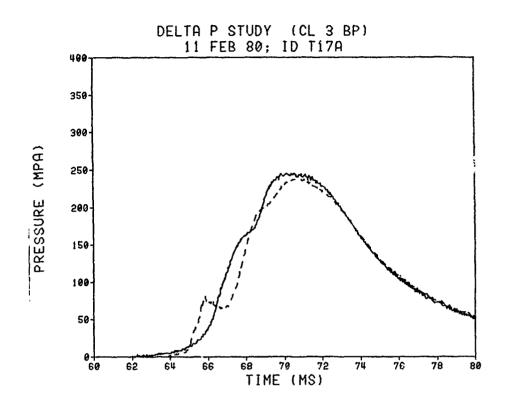


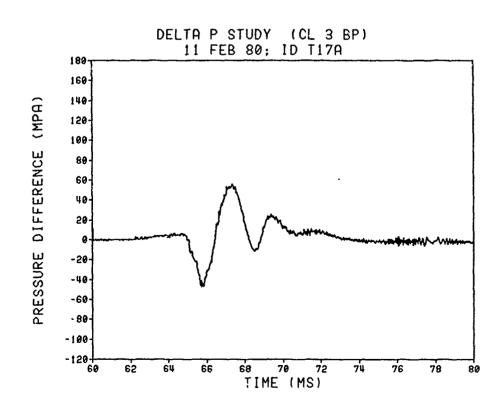


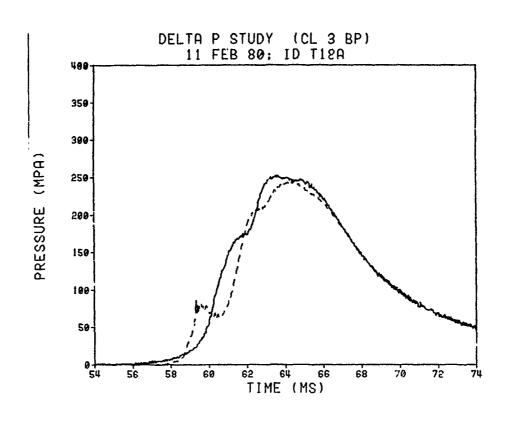


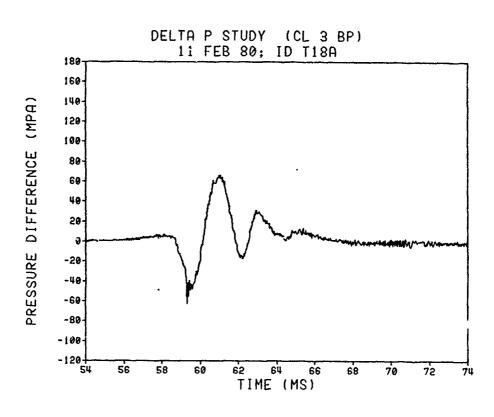


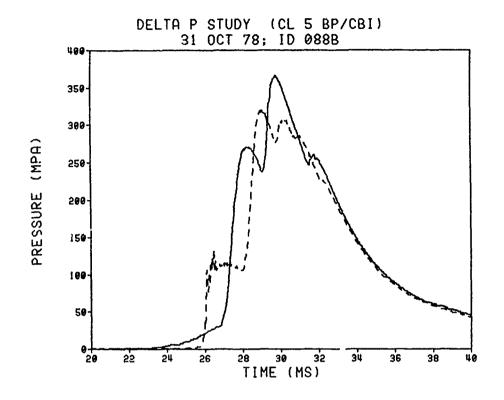


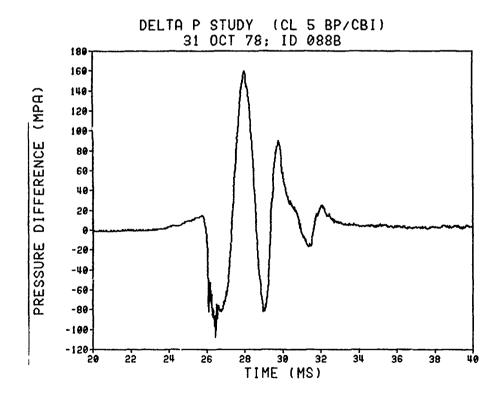


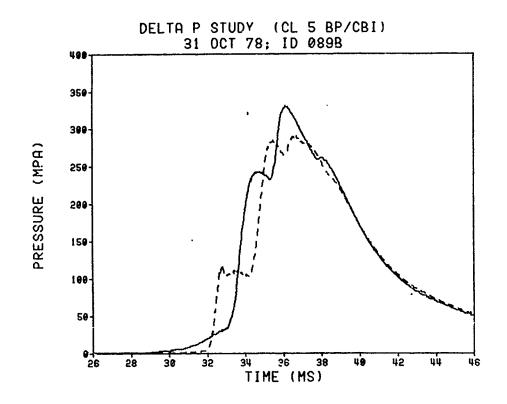


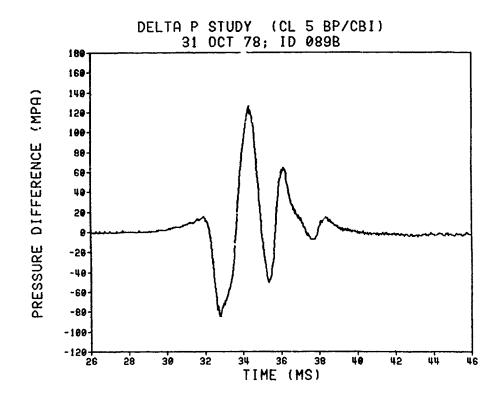


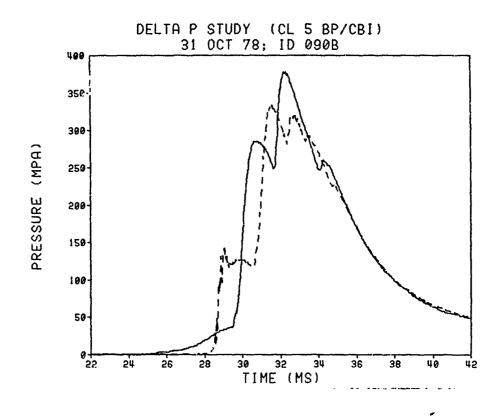


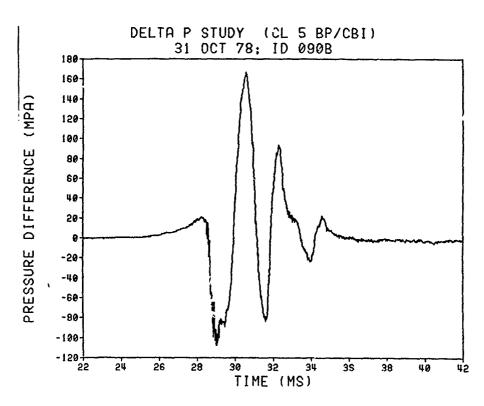


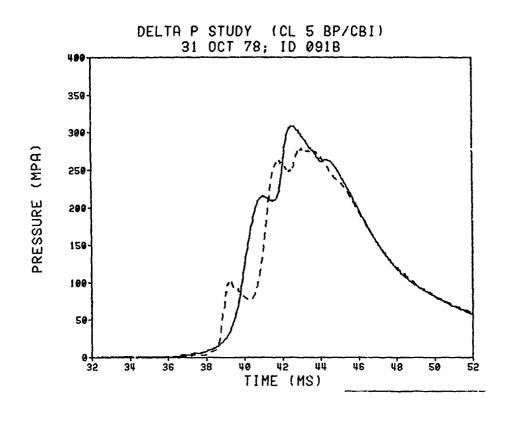


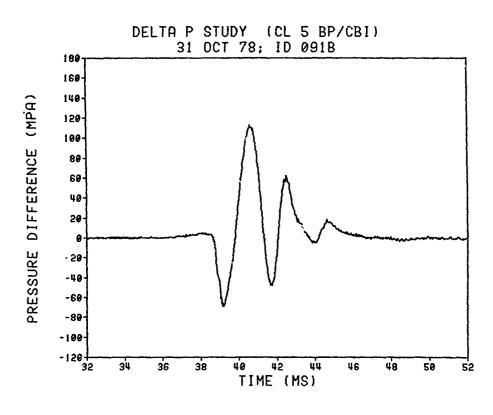


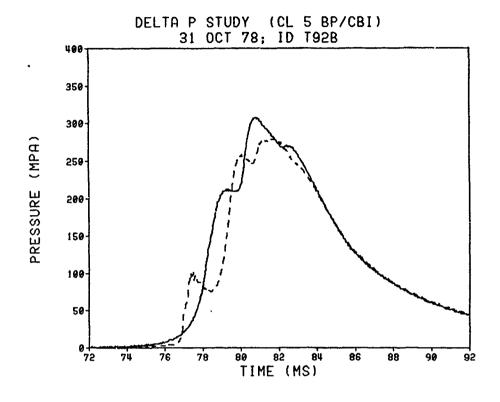


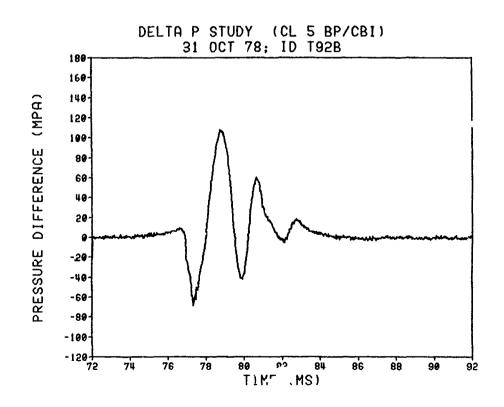


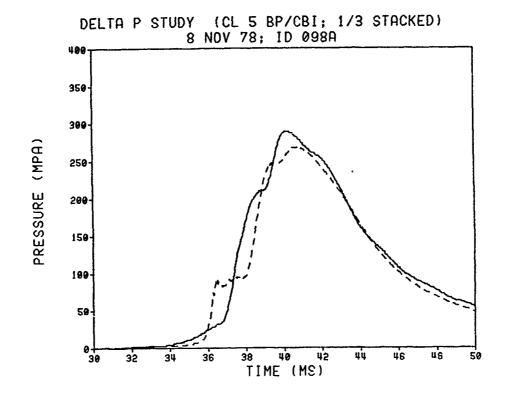


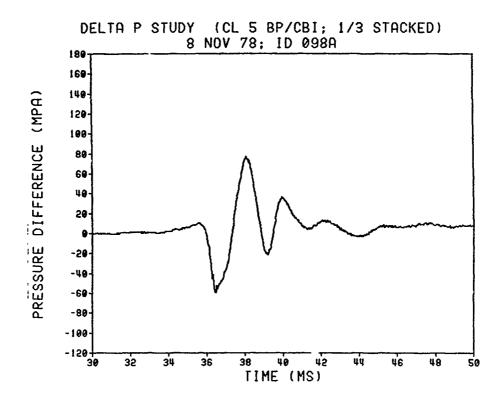


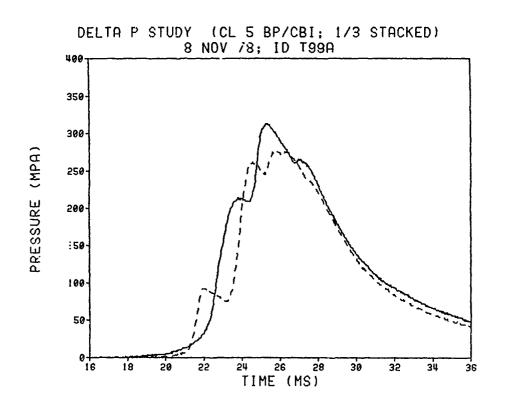


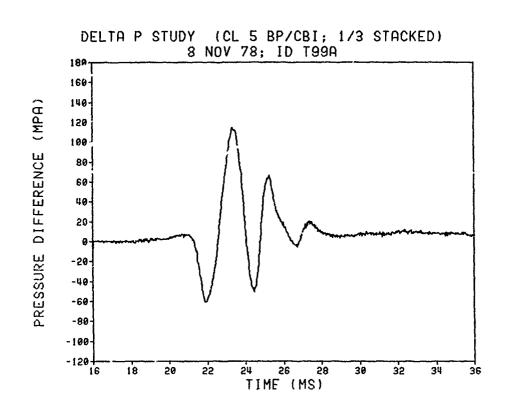


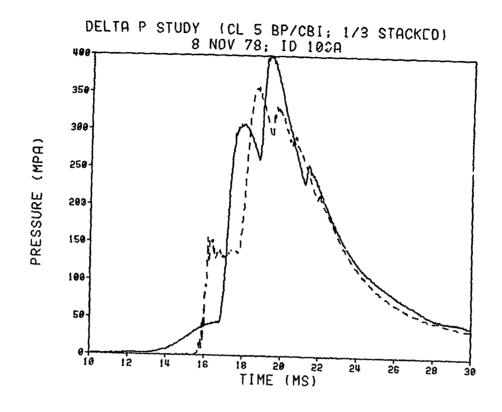


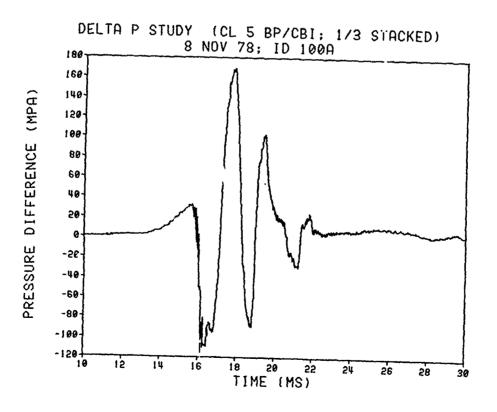


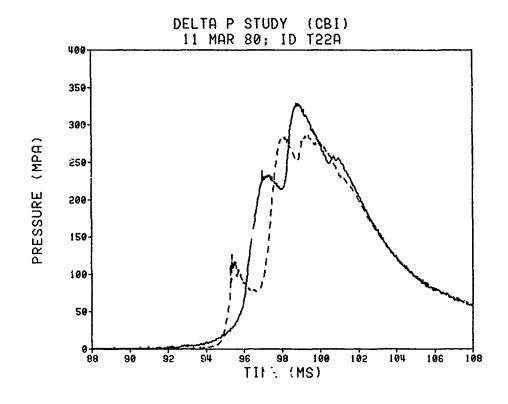


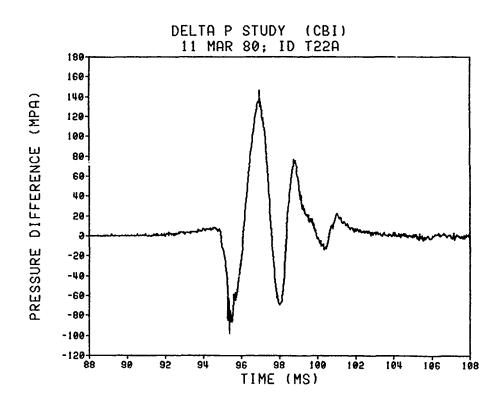


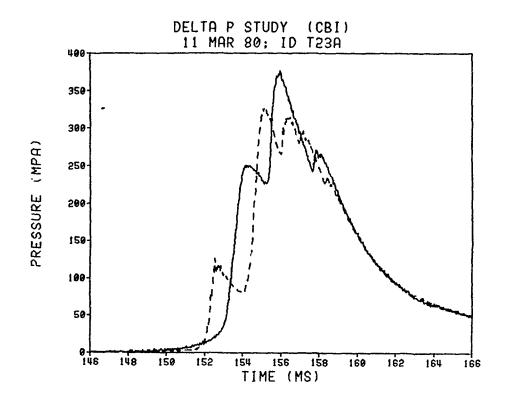


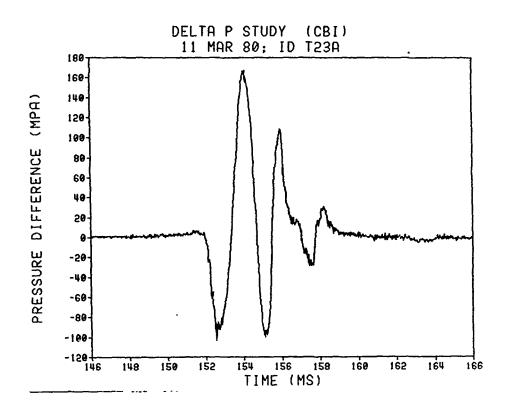


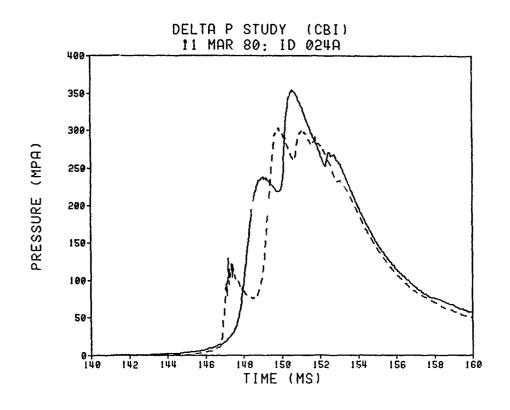


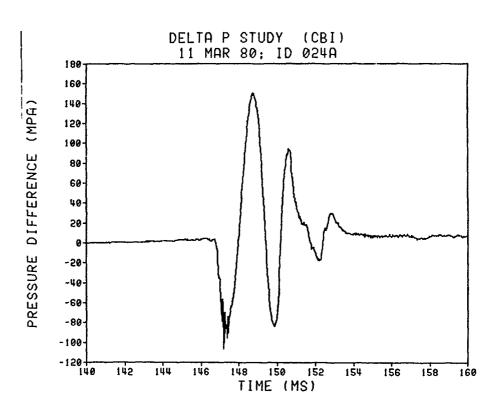


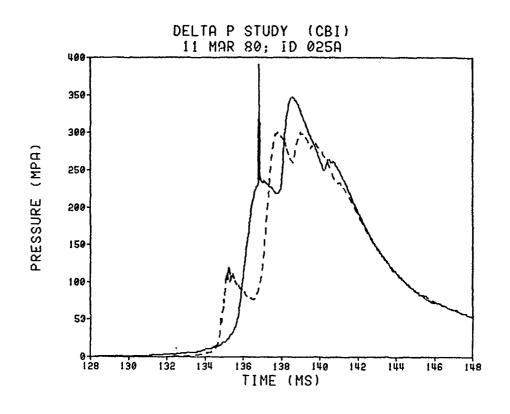


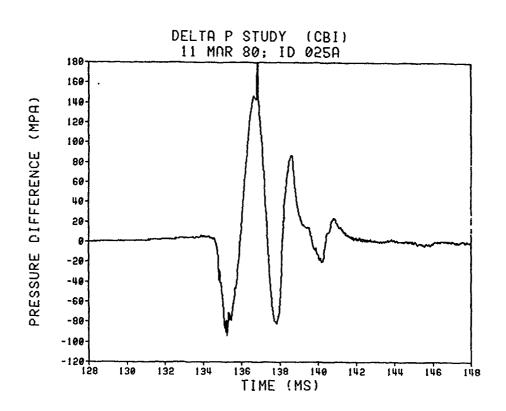


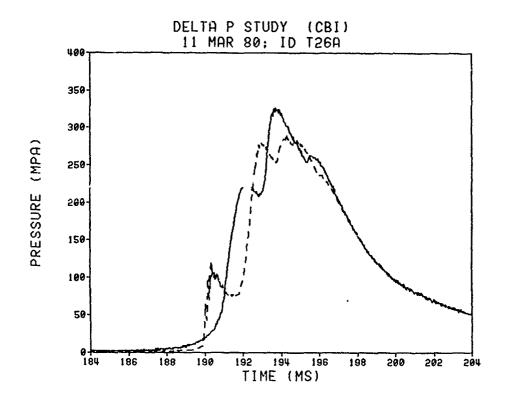


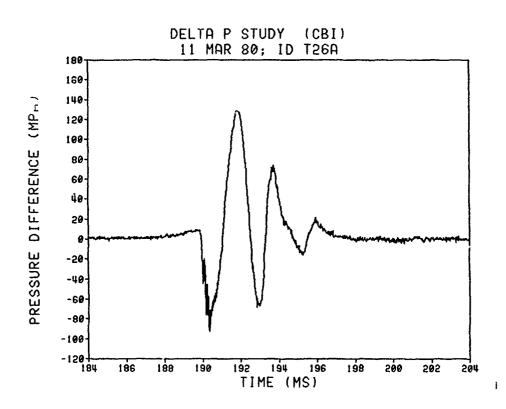


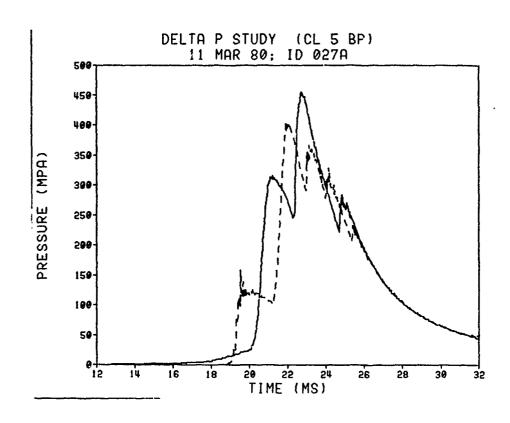


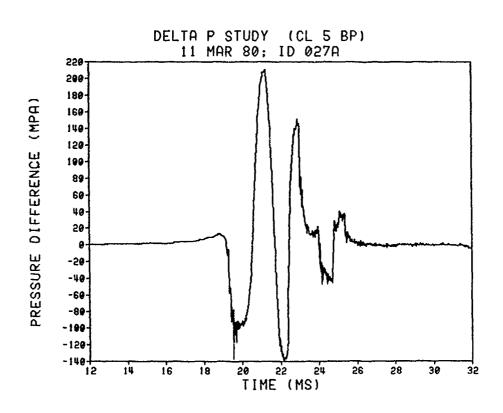












No. of No. of Copies Organization Copies Organization 12 Commander 1 Commander Defense Technical Info Certer US Army Electronics Research ATTN: DTIC-DDA and Development Command Cameron Station Technical Support Activity Alexandria, VA 22314 ATTN: DELSD-L Fort Monmouth, NJ 07703 1 Commander US Army Materiel Development 1 Commander and Readiness Command US Army Communications Research ATTN: DRCDMD-ST and Development Command 5001 Eisenhower Avenue ATTN: DRDCO-PPA-SA Alexandria, VA 22333 Fort Monmouth, NJ 07703 1 Commander 2 Commander US Army Materiel Development US Army Missile Research and Readiness Command and Development Command ATTN: DRCDE-DW ATTN: DRDMI-R 5001 Eisenhower Avenue DRDMI-YOL Alexandria, VA 22333 Redstone Arsenal, AL 35809 1 Commander 1 Commander US Army Aviation Research US Army Tank Automotive Research and Development Command and Development Command ATTN: DRDAV-E ATTN: DRDTA-UL 4300 Goodfellow Blvd Warren, MI 48090 St. Louis, MO 63120 10 Commander 1 Director US Army Armament R&D Command US Army ARRADCOM ATTN: DRDAR-TSS (2 cys)

2 Commander
USA ARRADCOM
ATTN: DRDAR-ICR W A

ATTN: DRDAR-LCB-TL

Watervliet, NY 12189

Benet Weapons Laboratory

ATTN: DRDAR-LCB, W. Austin
J. Busuttil

Watervliet Arsenal Watervliet, NY 12189

- 1 Director
  US Army Air Mobility Research
  and Development Laboratory
  Ames Research Center
  Moffett Field, CA 94035
- D. Downs
  L. Schlosberg
  G. Bubb
  L. Rosendorf
  DRDAR-LCE-R. Walker

DRDAR-LC4

S. Bernstein

DRDAR-SCA-L. Stiefel
DRDAR-TSF-L. Goldsmith

Dover, NJ 07801

No. of		No. of	
Copi	<u>Copies</u> <u>Organization</u>		es Organization
2	Commander US Army Materials and Mechanics Research Center ATTN: DRXMR-ATL Tech Library Watertown, MA 02172	1	Director Tonapah Test Range Division 1173 ATTN: J. Patrick P.O. Box 871 Tonapah, NV 89049
1	Commander US Army Natick Research and Development Command ATTN: DRXRE, D. Sieling Natick, MA 01762	2	Commander US Army Yuma Proving Ground ATTN: STEYP-MT, W. Taylor R. Bartlett Yuma, AZ 85364
1	Commander US Army Armament Materiel Readiness Command ATTN: DRDAR-LEP-L, Tech Library Rock Island, IL 61299		Commander US Army Dugway Proving Ground ATTN: STEDP-MT, W. Dyer J. Deale Dugway, UT 84022
1	Commander US Army Watervliet Arsenal ATTN: SARWV-RD, R. Thierry Watervliet, NY 12189	1	Commander US Army Materiel Testing Directorate ATTN: STEJP-MT, V. Gudkese Jefferson Proving Ground
1	Director US Army TRADOC Systems Analysis Activity ATTN: ATAA-SL, Tech Library White Sands Missile Range, NM 88002	1	Madison, IN 47251  Commander Hawthorne Army Ammo Plant ATTN: V. Miller Hawthorne, CA 90250
1	Project Manager Cannon Artillery Weapons Systems ATTN: DRCPM-CAWS-AM, F. Menke Dover, NJ 07801	_	Commander US Army Research Office ATTN: Tech Library P.O. Box 12211 Research Triangle Park, NC
2	Commander US Army Materiel Testing Directorate ATTN: STEYP-MTC, W. Phillips J. Gallett Yuma Proving Ground Yuma, AZ 85364	1	27709  Chief Naval Research ATTN: Code 473, R. Miller 800 N. Quincy Street Arlington, VA 22217

No. Copi		No. Copi	
3	Commander US Naval Surface Weapons Conter ATTN: Code G33, J. East D. McClure Code DX-21 Tech Library Dahlgren, VA 22448		Princeton Combustion Research Laboratories, Inc. ATTN: M. Summerfield 1041 US Highway One North Princeton, NJ 08540
	panigion, in 22,40	1	General Electric Company
2	Commander US Naval Surface Weapons Center ATTN: S. Jacobs/Code 240 Code 730 Silver Spring, MD 20910		Armament Systems Department ATTN: M. Bulman, Room 1311 Lakeside Avenue Burlington, VT 05402
	-	1	Lawrence Livermore Laboratory
2	Commander US Naval Weapons Center ATTN: Code 388, R. Derr C. Price		ATTN: M.S. L-355, A. Buckingham P.O. Box 808 Livermore, CA 94550
	China Lake, CA 93555	1	Paul Gough Associates, Inc. ATTN: P. Gough
1	Superintendent US Naval Postgraduate School Dept. of Mechanical Engineering		P.O. Box 1614 Portsmouth, NH 03801
	ATTN: A. Fuhs Monterey, CA 93940	1	Sandia Laboratories ATTN: Div 1548, W. Hartman Albuquerque, NM 87115
2	Commanding Officer US Naval Ordnance Station		• •
	ATTN: P. Stang C. Smith Indian Head, MD 20640	1	Battelle Memorial Institute ATTN: Tech Library 505 King Avenue Columbus, OH 43201
1	AFATL/DLDL ATTN: Dr. D. C. Daniel Eglin AFB, FL 32542	1	Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory Chemical Propulsion Information
2	AFRPL (DYSC) ATTN: D. George J. Levine Edwards AFB, CA 93523		Agency ATTN: T. Christian Johns Hopkins Road Laurel, MD 20810
1	Calspan Corporation ATTN: E. Fisher P.O. Box 400 Buffalo, NY 14221	1	Pennsylvania State University Dept. of Mechanical Engineering ATTN: K. Kuo University Park, PA 16802

# No. of Copies

### Organization

- 1 James Forestal Campus
  Princeton University
  Dept. of Aerospace and Mechanical Science
  ATTN: M. Summerfield
  Princeton, NJ 08540
- 1 University of California Los Alamos Scientific Lab ATTN: T3, D. Butler Los Alamos, NM 87545

## Aberdeen Proving Ground

Dir, USAMSAA

ATTN: DRXSY-D

DRXSY-MP, H. Cohen

Cdr, USATECOM

ATTN: DRSTE-TO-F

Dir, USACSL, Bldg. E3516, EA

ATTN: DRDAR-CLB-PA

## USER EVALUATION OF REPORT

Please take a few minutes to answer the questions below; tear out this sheet, fold as indicated, staple or tape closed, and place in the mail. Your comments will provide us with information for improving future reports.

2. Does this report satisfy a need? (Comment on purpose, related project, or other area of interest for which report will be used.)
3. How, specifically, is the report being used? (Information source, design data or procedure, management procedure, source of ideas, etc.)
4. Has the information in this report led to any quantitative savings as far as man-hours/contract dollars saved, operating costs avoided, efficiencies achieved, etc.? If so, please elaborate.
5. General Comments (Indicate what you think should be changed to make this report and future reports of this type more responsive to your needs, more usable, improve readability, etc.,
6. If you would like to be contacted by the personnel who prepared this report to raise specific questions or discuss the topic, prease fill in the following information.
Name:
Telephone Number:
Organization Address:

- --- FOLD HERE ---- ~

Director US Army Ballistic Research Laboratory Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21005



OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300

# **BUSINESS REPLY MAIL**

FIRST CLASS PERMIT NO 12062 WASHINGTON, DC

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

Director US Army Ballistic Research Laboratory ATTN: DRDAR-TSB Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21005

- FOLD HERE -

NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES